20030710.qrp v02_n977.qrl.20030710

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 19:03:08 EDT
From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: QRP-L digest 2977

QRP-L Digest 2977

Topics covered in this issue include:

 1) [153914] Forget about the art
 by James Duffey <JamesDuffey@comcast.net>
 2) [153915] Propagation Alert from IONPROBE
 by Ed Tanton <n4xy@earthlink.net>
 3) [153916] More PIC questions
 by "Jay Henson" <aj4ay@worldnet.att.net>
 4) [153917] Re: Good Day!
 by William R Colbert <w5xe@juno.com>
 5) [153918] Re: [fpqrp] PIG NETS/WEB PAGE/SPACE TIME CONTINUUM ETC...
 by "Jerry Ford" <benlightnd13@mchsi.com>
 6) [153919] Re: Triplett Meter Battery
 by "Charles W3KC" <w3kc@starpower.net>
 7) [153920] Re: [Parts] Whatsa 1N23C good fer?
 by Brad Thompson <Brad.Thompson@valley.net>
 8) [153921] Re: Triplett Meter Battery
 by Brad Thompson <Brad.Thompson@valley.net>
 9) [153922] Re: Alpha Delta Antenna Switches In Reverse
 by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
 10) [153923] Re: PIC questions
 by David Beach <VE3STI@rac.ca>
 11) [153924] Portable OP: K0EX / Pike's Peak
 by "Dave Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
 12) [153925] RE: PIC questions
 by "Lyle Johnson" <wa7gxd@fidalgo.net>
 13) [153926] RE: More PIC questions
 by "Lyle Johnson" <wa7gxd@fidalgo.net>
 14) [153927] Back from Big Meadow
 by "Trevor Jacobs" <kg6cyn@softhome.net>
 15) [153928] Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
 by "KD7SNX Rob. C" <kd7snx@earthlink.net>
 16) [153929] OHR Scaf vs. Idiom Press Scaf
 by "Scott A. Thomas" <qrpl@DpPros.com>
 17) [153930] upcoming contests?
 by "Doc K0EVZ" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
 18) [153931] Iowa QRP Club CW Net
 by mark.milburn@juno.com
 19) [153932] HB Ladderline, Lobstercon

by "sslyon" <sslyon@megalink.net>
20) [153933] 6 hot again
by "Emmersome Bigguns" <n8ie@woh.rr.com>
21) [153934] Re: More PIC questions
by David Hinerman <WD8CIV@worldnet.att.net>
22) [153935] Unbuilt DSW II for sale
by "bhuyck" <bhuyck@prodigy.net>
23) [153936] Re: [Parts] Whatsa 1N23C good fer?
by Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
24) [153937] Re: 6 hot again
by "M.M." <markem@cox.net>
25) [153938] Contest Announcement
by "Bob Hightower" <nk7m@extremezone.com>
26) [153939] RE: (fwd) Have You Been Harmed By Lead Solder?
by Adam Farson <farson@shaw.ca>
27) [153940] 817 and pacomm rigs for sale
by w9ya <w9ya@arrl.net>
28) [153941] [re]Upcoming Contests?
by "Doc K0EVZ" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
29) [153942] Re: OHR Scaf vs. Idiom Press Scaf
by Ed Tanton <n4xy@earthlink.net>
30) [153943] Re: 1N23C Handling Techniques
by Ed Tanton <n4xy@earthlink.net>
31) [153944] Fox Notice K0FRP for Sunday
by "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
32) [153945] Re: More PIC questions
by John Nall <jnall01@alltel.net>
33) [153946] Re: Forget about the art
by Karl Larsen <k5di@msn.com>
34) [153947] Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
35) [153948] Results - July Spartan Sprint
by "John Huffman" <hjohnc@core.com>
36) [153949] Limited space antenna
by Vin Santis <vsantis@earthlink.net>
37) [153950] Re: Fox Notice K0FRP for Sunday
by "John L. Sielke" <jsielke@pobox.com>
38) [153951] Re: battery backup for home station
by Tim Groat <tcgroat@earthlink.net>
39) [153952] Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
by "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@direcway.com>
40) [153953] FS: Antenna Items
by "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.us>
41) [153954] Capacitor, diode, transistor, etc. kits
by Noah Lorang <NoahLorang@nc.rr.com>
42) [153955] Re: Triplett Meter Battery
by "Charles W3KC" <w3kc@starpower.net>
43) [153956] 706MKllGon 60 meters

by "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>
44) [153957] Re: More PIC questions
by Dale Botkin <dale@botkin.org>
45) [153958] Lobstercon = K1T
by "sslyon" <sslyon@megalink.net>
46) [153959] Re: [Parts] Whatsa 1N23C good fer?
by "Brad Hernlem" <alihernlem@hotmail.com>
47) [153960] Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
by Dale Botkin <dale@botkin.org>
48) [153961] Re: 706MKllGon 60 meters
by "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
49) [153962] Meter Battery Thanks
by "Davies, Doug A FOR:EX" <Doug.Davies@gems3.gov.bc.ca>
50) [153963] Doh!
by Jeff Davis <jeff@ke9v.com>
51) [153964] Re: Triplett Meter Battery
by "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
52) [153965] 44 Wye
by Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
53) [153966] RE: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
by "Boulineau, Lee" <lee.boulineau@attws.com>
54) [153967] RE: Digitally controlled cap
by "AI2Q" <ai2q@adelphia.net>
55) [153968] RE: 706MKllGon 60 meters
by "Steve Blary" <steve@eclipsecat.com>
56) [153969] NEQRP CW Net, Thursday, 10 July 03, 08:30 PM EDT, 3.565 MHz
by Chuck Ludinsky <cjl@mitre.org>
57) [153970] Stupid Human Tricks
by "David J. Adams" <david@theadamsclan.com>
58) [153971] 1500z band scan July 10/03
by Fred Lesnick <flesnick@tbaytel.net>
59) [153972] Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
60) [153973] Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
61) [153974] TenTec filters and noise blanker FS
by "Ken Simpson, W8EK" <W8EK@allvantage.com>
62) [153975] Re: Limited space antenna
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
63) [153976] RE: 44 Wye
by "David Hinerman" <WD8CIV@worldnet.att.net>
64) [153977] Re: Good Day!
by William R Colbert <w5xe@juno.com>
65) [153978] Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
by Dale Botkin <dale@botkin.org>
66) [153979] Hustler mobile antennas FS
by "Ken Simpson, W8EK" <W8EK@allvantage.com>
67) [153980] Re: Good Day!

 by Jim Eshleman <jce0@Lehigh.EDU>
 68) [153981] topical margarine
 by "David Hinerman" <WD8CIV@worldnet.att.net>
 69) [153982] Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
 by "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@direcway.com>
 70) [153983] Re: Limited space antenna
 by Doug Behl <doug.behl@sympatico.ca>
 71) [153984] Looken for piggie's
 by "Jerry Ford" <benlightnd13@mchsi.com>
 72) [153985] Fw: [fpqrp] Next Year FP contest..
 by "Jerry Ford" <benlightnd13@mchsi.com>
 73) [153986] Re: battery backup for home station
 by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
 74) [153987] Re: Limited space antenna
 by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
 75) [153988] Re: Limited space antenna
 by Curt Milton <wb8yyy@yahoo.com>
 76) [153989] Re: Forget about the art
 by James Duffey <JamesDuffey@comcast.net>
 77) [153990] RE: 706MKllGon 60 meters...how 'bout the '703 QRP hf-only model?
 by "Bill, N4QA" <n4qa@hotmail.com>
 78) [153991] Open line spacers I have made or thought about
 by ve3ab@mail.mondenet.com
 79) [153992] RE: 44 Wye
 by Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
 80) [153993] Re:Further to battery backup for home station
 by "Karl" <kkanalz@gcecisp.com>
 81) [153994] Re: battery backup for home station
 by Mark Gilger <mgilger@brightdsl.net>
 82) [153995] RE: 6 hot again
 by "Emmersome Bigguns" <n8ie@woh.rr.com>
 83) [153996] Re:Further to battery backup for home station
 by "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@direcway.com>

Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2003 19:10:21 -0400
From: James Duffey <JamesDuffey@comcast.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [153914] Forget about the art
Message-ID: <1c562e81c55919.1c559191c562e8@icomcast.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-language: en
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-disposition: inline

Well my second

attempt at ASCII art
didn't work either.
The connection to the
radials is at the
center of the radials.
I am not sure why it
is shifted in my art,
but I am sure it is due
to my incompetence.
- Dr. Megacycle
KK6MC/5
James Duffey
Portable in Ballston
New York for the
week

Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2003 19:17:40 -0400
From: Ed Tanton <n4xy@earthlink.net>
To: qrp-L Reflector <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>,
 noga reflector <nogaqrp@mailman.qth.net>
Subject: [153915] Propagation Alert from IONPROBE
Message-ID: <5.2.1.1.2.20030709191110.03b36e08@pop.earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Propagation Alert from IONPROBE based on the data below:

:Product: Solar and Geophysical Activity Summary
:Issued: 2003 Jul 09 0250 UT
Prepared jointly by the U.S. Dept. of Commerce, NOAA,
Space Environment Center and the U.S. Air Force.
#
Joint USAF/NOAA Solar and Geophysical Activity Summary
SGAS Number 190 Issued at 0245Z on 09 Jul 2003

This report is compiled from data received at SWO on 08 Jul

A. Energetic Events
Begin Max End Rgn Loc Xray Op 245MHz 10cm Sweep
 0721 0730 0737 0402 S11W48 C5.2 1f 120
 1117 1117 1118 650
 1737 1738 1739 3500
B. Proton Events: None.

C. Geomagnetic Activity Summary: The geomagnetic field was quiet to
unsettled. The greater than 2 MeV electron fluxes at geosynchronous
orbit reached high levels.
D. Stratwarm: None.
E. Daily Indices: (real-time preliminary/estimated values)
10 cm 131 SSN 149 Afr/Ap 005/005 X-ray Background B4.6
Daily Proton Fluence (flux accumulation over 24 hrs)
GT 1 MeV 5.6e+05 GT 10 MeV 1.1e+04 p/(cm2-ster-day)
(GOES-11 satellite synchronous orbit W114 degrees)
Daily Electron Fluence
GT 2 MeV 2.00e+08 e/(cm2-ster-day)
(GOES-12 satellite synchronous orbit W75 degrees)
3 Hour K-indices:
Boulder 2 1 1 2 2 2 1 1 Planetary 1 1 1 1 2 2 3 2
F. Comments: None

72/73 Ed Tanton N4XY <n4xy@earthlink.net>

Ed Tanton N4XY
189 Pioneer Trail
Marietta, GA 30068-3466

website: http://www.n4xy.com

All emails <IN> & <OUT> checked by
Norton AntiVirus with AutoProtect

LM: ARRL QCWA AMSAT & INDEXA;
SEDXC NCDXA GACW QRP-ARCI
OK-QRP QRP-L #758 K2 (FT) #00057

"He that gives up a little liberty to gain
temporary security will lose both and
deserve neither".
--Benjamin Franklin

"Suppose you were an idiot ...
and suppose you were a member of
Congress... but I repeat myself."
--Mark Twain

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 18:23:00 -0500
From: "Jay Henson" <aj4ay@worldnet.att.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153916] More PIC questions
Message-ID: <003501c34671$0a3eea50$2c70560c@aj4ay>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
	charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

All,

This thread has been a really good one with lots of input, info, etc.

Like others, I have been looking at microcontrollers for a short while. Needless to say, the amount of information available is overwhelming. Trying to whittle the big picture down into a manageable size so that decisions on what chip, what programming software, what programming interface, etc. has caused me to put off doing anything. I am a programmer, mainly on large process control systems, so learning a new language/syntax is not the issue.

Having written that, I ask these four questions to the knowledgeable group:

For simple tasks that are related to amateur radio, ie. band switching, automated tuner, sending morse code, etc.,

What processors would you recommend that I (or anyone) look at? Notice the plural. Microchip, Atmel, Scenix/Ubicom and others have a boatload of processors to choose from. Can that be cut down to just a few from each vendor, with the understanding that the task will determine the best suited microcontroller?

What software do you use to program the chip(s) you recommend?

What hardware interface do you use to download the program into the microcontroller?

What debugging tools do you use?

I am a firm believer in "you get what you pay for" so I am not really interested in doing this on the cheap, although that has to be considered. I am more into doing it right and doing it easy.

Thanks in advance.
Jay
AJ4AY
Mobile, AL

QRPL 1372, ARCI 8131, FISTS 7917, FP -115, SOC 220

Outgoing mail is certified Virus Free.
Checked by AVG anti-virus system (http://www.grisoft.com).
Version: 6.0.497 / Virus Database: 296 - Release Date: 7/4/2003

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 17:20:21 -0600
From: William R Colbert <w5xe@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [153917] Re: Good Day!
Message-ID: <20030709.172026.-410427.11.w5xe@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 18:14:01 -0500
From: "Jerry Ford" <benlightnd13@mchsi.com>
To: "qrp-l" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, "FPigs" <fpqrp-l@mpna.com>
Subject: [153918] Re: [fpqrp] PIG NETS/WEB PAGE/SPACE TIME CONTINUUM ETC...
Message-ID: <02c601c3466f$c8cb80c0$0077da0c@mchsi.com>

Hi Steve;

More folks buying the most recent version as designed by Diz starting last summer. Several of us (like me) are building up a second rig this fall as a new build project or as a method of adding options that we didn't put on the first rig.
So, I call it the second build because it is just that for some of us. Some others are jumping in to build their first rig now because they want to join in at the beginning and work along as we progress through the boards.

We'll coordinate through the Multipigplus reflector so we're not taking up band space here.

Should be a fun time ending in yet another great rig.

As for any changes, Diz set this up so you could add several options

as you like. There are some mods floating around and we continue to
see additions as time goes.

Jump in a join us:

It will be a fun build with all the support you need.

You can contact Diz at

w8diz@fpqrp.com

He will set you up with the kit and gives great support in answer to
any question you may have as we work along.

72 es oo Jerry N0JRN

(I have not ties to this project. Just a real happy camper)

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 19:34:32 -0400
From: "Charles W3KC" <w3kc@starpower.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153919] Re: Triplett Meter Battery
Message-ID: <000901c34672$bf5c0200$b8062c42@w3kc>

I get mine from Radioshack.com. Search their site for 30 volt Eveready. BTW,
your Triplett should still work on all but the high ohms range even without the
30v battery.
72 de Chas W3KC

Doug VA7DD said
> One of the two batteries in my old Triplett analog VOM just died. The
> battery is an Eveready No. 413. It is a small 30 volt battery with
> terminals on opposite ends...

Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2003 19:39:05 -0400
From: Brad Thompson <Brad.Thompson@valley.net>
To: alihernlem@hotmail.com,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [153920] Re: [Parts] Whatsa 1N23C good fer?
Message-ID: <5.0.2.1.2.20030709192014.01c02510@pop3.norton.antivirus>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 08:26 PM 07/09/2003 +0000, Brad Hernlem wrote:
>I have a box of these diodes individually packaged and made by Microwave
>Associates Inc. I understand that they are mixer diodes for up to X-band
>frequencies. Can anyone tell me more about them and what use they might be
>put to?
>
>Also, anyone recognize a part made by Narda identified as an N-333 thermistor?
>
>TNX
>
>Brad KG6IOE

Hello--
The 1N23x family of diodes are point-contact silicon diodes designed for
X-band (10 GHz)
mixer service. The 1N23C presents a 6 dB conversion loss and a "maximum
noise output
ratio" of 2, whatever that means! IIRC, these diodes were developed late in
World War II
and saw service well into the 1960s. The 1N23D has lowest noise.

I haven't looked at the specs for these in a long time, but the 1N23 is
probably also useful as
a harmonic generator and general-purpose RF detector. Don't apply a lot of
reverse voltage
or forward current, though.

IIRC, the diodes were originally assembled by watching V-I characteristics
on an oscilloscope while manipulating the cat's whisker inside the diode
package.
When the curve looked "right", the whisker was fixed in place by a backfill of
high-melting-point wax. Look on the side of the diode for a small circular
port where
the wax was filled in.

There's a version of this diode that has a double-ended cartridge with two
pins and a gold-plated base
that fitted onto either pin. Certain applications called for a 1N23-R (?)
of opposite polarity to the
1N23. By swapping ends, one double-ended 1N23 could fill either socket.

Applications include early-model automobile radar detectors and very early
UHF-TV tuners--

apparently, someone bought a huge quantity of 1N23s and built UHF tuners around 'em, using
a 6AF4 as the local oscillator.

73--
Brad AA1IP

Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2003 19:48:53 -0400
From: Brad Thompson <Brad.Thompson@valley.net>
To: Doug.Davies@gems3.gov.bc.ca,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153921] Re: Triplett Meter Battery
Message-ID: <5.0.2.1.2.20030709194245.01c03ac0@pop3.norton.antivirus>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 02:06 PM 07/09/2003 -0700, Davies, Doug A FOR:EX wrote:
>One of the two batteries in my old Triplett analog VOM just died. The
>battery is an Eveready No. 413. It is a small 30 volt battery with
>terminals on opposite ends. It looks like a regular 9-volt one but it's a
>bit longer. I've looked and so far have been unable to find a replacement.
>Even the Eveready (Energizer) web site doesn't list them. Does anyone know
>if these batteries are still available and where I might look to find one?
>
>Doug VA7DD

Hello--

Wow... I haven't seen one of these in at least 20 years. Possible replacements include
fitting three series-connected 9-volt alkaline batteries in the case to get 27-plus volts,
which should work okay.

You might also take a look at the small 12-volt batteries used in Sears and possibly other
garage-door openers. These cost approx. $2.50 each here in the U.S.; note that these
have smooth end connectors and thus would require stacking in a tubular enclosure
with a spring-loaded contact on one end. These would produce 36 volts, which might
be on the high side.

As a last resort, one could purchase three of these 12-volt batteries and remove cells from one
to get closer to 30 volts.

As a really last, last resort, I could imagine designing a small, isolated-output DC-to-DC convertor
that raised 1.5 volts to 30 volts regulated!

Possibly someone Out There has a source of the original batteries?

73--
Brad AA1IP

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 18:50:51 -0700
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
To: <w5yr@att.net>,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153922] Re: Alpha Delta Antenna Switches In Reverse
Message-ID: <003c01c34685$b19c96d0$0400000a@wa5bdu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Why didn't I think of that?

I'm sure it's not as accurate as the HP, but I've got a homebrew log RF power meter built from the Kanga parts kit ...

Hooked it to an unused port of my no-name switch. Feed the FT-1000 through to the matchbox and big dipole ...

At 100 watts out, I see 0 dBm on the meter. Let's see, 100 watts is 50 dBm, right? So I reckon I'm getting 50 dBm isolation on 40 meters..

The 0 dBm number means I'm feeding 1 milliwatt out to the unselected port.

That's not gonna hurt my unused rig, but it's still a lot of signal. Maybe that Alpha mfgr said to keep it switched off just so the user wouldn't be shocked by the intensity of the signal and think he's not getting sufficient isolation. Just a guess.

Putting it in terms of the mythical S-unit ... S9 is sometimes considered to

be 50 uV into 50 ohms. That's -73 dBm. So 0 dBm would be 73 dB over S9.

72--Nick, WA5BDU

What the heck, let's try another quick test. On 20 meters to the KT-34A, I'm getting about 7 dBm to the Kanga meter. So my isolation has dropped to 43 dB.

----- Original Message -----
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
it antenna disconnected and therefore
> was "off."
>
> I think I will fire up my HP 436A power meter - the one I had at ArkieCon -
> and measure the feedthrough of a couple of switches just for grins. It will
> read from about 0.3 nanowatts to 30 watts so that should cover it! <:}
>
> 73/72, George
> Amateur Radio W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 19:51:19 -0400
From: David Beach <VE3STI@rac.ca>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Cc: leon_heller@hotmail.com
Subject: [153923] Re: PIC questions
Message-ID: <3C9C1012-B268-11D7-A493-000A959F1456@rac.ca>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; format=flowed
Mime-Version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v552)
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Is there anyone who has used the new AVR ISP (the cheap one!) and the STK500? Or, who knows enough about both to give us a good comparison? I note that the STK500 has lots of sockets but functionally, what are the differences? There is a big price spread (the AVRISP is about 1/3 the price of the STK500). What would be the reasons to go for the older, more expensive programmer?

While I might not buy the STK500 just to 'try' the AVRs, for $42 CDN ($29 US) the AVRISP is tempting!

David Beach
VE3STI

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 19:40:35 -0700
From: "Dave Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, "MFoster" <k0ex@yahoo.com>
Subject: [153924] Portable OP: K0EX / Pike's Peak
Message-ID: <004601c3468c$a50f1260$24724b43@pavilion>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

gang - I received the following from Mark Foster, K0EX -

K0EX will operate "/PP" atop Pikes Peak (elev. 14,110
ft) on Saturday, July 12, from no later than 8:30am MDT to as late as
7:00pm MDT (weather & band condx permitting). Freqs:
7040kHz and 14060kHz.

Operation is QRP with an inverted vee and battery
power. PLEASE, use QRP also (5w or less) for calling
and for QSOs!

A special photo QSL is p-o-s-s-i-b-l-e. Regardless,
all rcvd SASE QSLs will be QSL'd in return.

FISTS #9127, and ARS #1381.

It looks like it's shaping up to be a good weekend for working
portable stations!

73- Dave Benson, K1SWL

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 17:41:23 -0700
From: "Lyle Johnson" <wa7gxd@fidalgo.net>

To: <VE3STI@rac.ca>,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153925] RE: PIC questions
Message-ID: <NEBBKGGNGLGOHDJKFAPHKEDJEJAA.wa7gxd@fidalgo.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> Is there anyone who has used the new AVR ISP (the cheap one!) and the
> STK500? Or, who knows enough about both to give us a good comparison?

The STK500 is a development board. It can program parts. It has switches and LEDs and connectors so you can prototype widgets with it. It has a voltage regulator and an RS232 port buffer so you can talk to it and to the AVR chip you are prototyping or developing with.

The ISP is just that - a device that connects from your computer to a board you supply with the AVR you are using, power supply and ISP connector. It then allows you to In System Program the AVR in your target project.

Go to the Atmel website and look up both devices, browse their spec sheets. The answers are all there...

I used the STK500 and CV-AVR to prototype the KDSP2 while I was developing it. I used the ISP to program AVRs in the KDSP2 during field testing.

72/73,

Lyle KK7P

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 18:00:06 -0700
From: "Lyle Johnson" <wa7gxd@fidalgo.net>
To: <aj4ay@worldnet.att.net>,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153926] RE: More PIC questions
Message-ID: <NEBBKGGNGLGOHDJKFAPHCEDKEJAA.wa7gxd@fidalgo.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> For simple tasks that are related to amateur radio, ie. band switching,
> automated tuner, sending morse code, etc.,

>
> What processors would you recommend that I (or anyone) look at?
> Notice the
> plural. Microchip, Atmel, Scenix/Ubicom and others have a boatload of
> processors to choose from. Can that be cut down to just a few from each
> vendor, with the understanding that the task will determine the
> best suited
> microcontroller?

This is like asking, "What car should I drive?"

The answer is use whatever you can get and that you are satisfied with. For simple tasks, most any microcontroller will do the job in a reasonable time.

There are lots of people designing with Microchip PICs and with Atmel AVRs. Ubicom is just a PIC on steroids. If you are just starting, then I'd say either of these ought to work. PICs are more pervasive. The TI low power part is new but interesting and inexpensive. You'll find fewer people to help you, but few and zero are not synonyms :-)

Do you have a friend/Elmer who is knowledgeable, or at least interested in making mistakes with you? Use what he uses. Still can't decide? Flip a coin. Twice.

> What software do you use to program the chip(s) you recommend?

What computer are you using? PC, Mac, Linux, Acorn, SPARC? Assuming Windows on a PC< get the MPLAB from Microchip or AVR Studio from Atmel. Both are free and provide an Assembler, simulator, IDE and so forth.

If you are already familiar with C, then get the freebie/demo PICC compiler for PICs or the CVAVR freebie/demo compiler for AVR. Use the parts that these freebie versions support.

Otherwise, start in assembler and do something easy, like blink an LED. Get to understand the processor's limitations, and how to use the peripherals, like timers and i/o ports and the like. Then move on the C if you feel the need.

> What hardware interface do you use to download the program into the
> microcontroller?

For PIC I use the ICD2 debugger. For AVR I use the ISP dongle. But I also have a universal programmer that handles PICs, AVRs, Flash memories and etc. Use what works for you.

If you have nothing, use something supported by the manufacturer - $30 or $40 is not much, even if you can build one for $2. When you have a problem

with programming and tell tech support via email that your homemade programmer is not working, you're not going to get a helpful response. If you tell them their ISP widget isn't working, you'll get help.

> What debugging tools do you use?

MPLAB or AVR Studio both work fine initially.

72/73,

Lyle KK7P

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 18:05:50 -0700
From: "Trevor Jacobs" <kg6cyn@softhome.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>,
 "Elecraft Mailing List" <elecraft@mailman.qth.net>
Subject: [153927] Back from Big Meadow
Message-ID: <005d01c3467f$682bd5c0$4420f4d8@tjacobs>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hey Gang,

Got back from camping in Big Meadow (near Kernville,CA) at 8000' this Monday. We had a blast! Lot's of activity hiking and some QRP with the K1. Chatted with a few of you on the air and signals were pretty good this last weekend. Didn't make the ARS Sprint though as we had to get back. I'll be building a web page this weekend with lots of pictures, so I'll post a link when it's done. Was also nice to check into the Western States CW QRP Net on 40 meters (around 7.040 9 AM PDT) last Saturday. For those of you out here in the West, check into the net if you have time. Great bunch of guys and very good CW to copy. Signals were very easy copy from the camp site. I was using a different antenna this time also. I built another Center Fed Zepp that worked like a champ. Best DX was Bill KL7RHJ in Anchorage, and most memorable was working Monty N5ESE while he was also /p out on Lake Travis in Austin, TX. Monty, sorry I lost you, but the band changed and you disappeared completely! You were very good copy on the exchange before that. Probably just fell asleep due to my long winded exchanges ;-)

I'll be in Long Beach for the next few days and am going to try and figure out a stealthy antenna for the YL's condo. So give me a report if

you hear me on the air. Take care all and I'll post the link when the page is up...

73's Trev KG6CYN
http://www.qsl.net/kg6cyn

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 18:09:13 -0700
From: "KD7SNX Rob. C" <kd7snx@earthlink.net>
To: "message post" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153928] Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
Message-ID: <000f01c3467f$e0be3aa0$0540b83f@Cravers>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

great idea! am 15 and must admit that Doug Hendricks's and Dave Benson's kits have encouraged me to "build more" I have found that instead of wanting those 100w full feature radios I want a sw40+ or a dsw. Now that I see that it is a lot more fun building and talking rather then just talking! I found myself now monitoring 2m while building odds and ends. I like building paddles and keys, only because I am waiting for my real toys to arrive! like my norcal keyer kit!!! what a neat keyer he made up. great job and you got it right Doug! keep up those great little kits! You guys are helping many ham like myself learn or become better at code. Also I must say that just listening cw on the computer got boring, but I got a vectronics key kit, that when out the window, because it stopped working. Anyway I used it to talk to my uncle wv7g on MCW or CW on FM. you guys know what I mean. when I started doing that I wanted to build more kits, plus it made cw more enjoyable and that is the main reason I will now upgrade to general at Tuthill this year!!!! can't wait, but it will have too. To sum up Great job, Doug, Well Done and what you are and the rest of the group is doing is very helpful!

Rob. C
KD7SNX

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 21:07:39 -0400
From: "Scott A. Thomas" <qrpl@DpPros.com>
To: "'QRP List'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153929] OHR Scaf vs. Idiom Press Scaf

Message-ID: <000001c3467f$a8d506f0$8801a8c0@i75k>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>From what I've read, these are both excellent audio filters, but only the Idiom is still available. If anyone has been fortunate enough to have used both or done a comparison, I'd like to hear your thoughts.

Thanks in advance,
Scott

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 20:22:29 -0500
From: "Doc K0EVZ" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
To: "qrp-l reflector" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Cc: "doc k0evz earthlink" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
Subject: [153930] upcoming contests?
Message-ID: <412003741012229826@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Gang:

What contest(s) are coming up this weekend? Sorry for the BW, but I have mislaid my QRP calender. Anyone help? Thanks in advance.

73,
--Doc/K0EVZ

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 20:45:14 -0500
From: mark.milburn@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [153931] Iowa QRP Club CW Net
Message-ID: <20030709.204548.-644709.5.MARK.MILBURN@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

OK, who exactly put the curse on Wednesday nights? Another rumbling, noisy night on 7.112. And add some foreign SSB stations on there as well. It made the net interesting, at the least.

But...we had:

KQ0I Mark Iowa

N0WA Dennis Iowa

W5USM Bill Texas
 Welcome to the Iowa QRP Club, Bill, and welcome to the net. Sure gave you a workout for your
 first check-in. I'll try to be easier on you next time.

N0EVH John Missouri
 John, get that QSL card off to me and I'll get you one right back. Guess that won't quite finish up your
 QRP WAS, but we'll get you pretty close.

K0MAX Max Minnesota

Heck, if we can do that good on such a lousy night, just imagine what it could be like on a good night.

My sincered thanks to all who made the effort to turn out on a night like this. Stick with us, I promise things will get better. (Easy promise, it couldn't get much worse!)

Have a safe week, and see you next Wednesday.

72 Mark KQ0I
Des Moines, Iowa

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 21:55:34 -0400
From: "sslyon" <sslyon@megalink.net>
To: "qrp list" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, "NEQRP LIST" <neqrp@jonal.net>
Subject: [153932] HB Ladderline, Lobstercon
Message-ID: <000701c34686$5a4773e0$0ac8e742@megalink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;

 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

NJQRP Homebrewer published my short article on a version of HB ladder/parallel line a while back (The 12-Step Process)and the recent interest has revived mine. The fabrication process has evolved since that first version and will be presented live at Lobstercon this weekend. In short, ordinary weed wacker line is used for the spacers, and it's an easy, robust and cheap way to achieve low loss, balanced feeders and phasing lines. We'll be feeding the Lazy-H with it and various other antlers we decide to loft. Hope we have the breeze for the kite-flown antennas!

Rex called today and reported that we may have to file an environmental impact statement with the Maine Fisheries Dept. to cover the demand for the Free Range Lobsters. I ordered a QRO size. (death... where is thy sting?)
73
aa1my

Seabury Lyon
99 Sparrowhawk Mtn Rd
Bethel ME, 04217 U.S.A.
207-836-2576

Virus Protection by Norton and ZoneAlarm

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 22:06:10 -0400
From: "Emmersome Bigguns" <n8ie@woh.rr.com>
To: "QRP-l" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, "Pigs" <fpqrp-l@mpna.com>
Subject: [153933] 6 hot again
Message-ID: <MMEDLKDLONJOAIGICDJAGEPIEIAA.n8ie@woh.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Great opening in EM79. TX, OK, MO, AL, LA, MN.
Not much from the east coast but plenty of sigs.

72, oo
Dan, N8IE

Outgoing mail is certified Virus Free.
Checked by AVG anti-virus system (http://www.grisoft.com).
Version: 6.0.497 / Virus Database: 296 - Release Date: 7/4/2003

Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2003 22:04:57 -0400
From: David Hinerman <WD8CIV@worldnet.att.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [153934] Re: More PIC questions
Message-ID: <5.1.1.6.1.20030709213934.00b23458@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

>I have been looking at microcontrollers for a short while.
>Needless to say, the amount of information available is overwhelming.
>Trying to whittle the big picture down into a manageable size so that
>decisions on what chip, what programming software, what programming
>interface, etc. has caused me to put off doing anything.

Jay,

Analysis paralysis - I know it well. (grin)

>I am a programmer,
>mainly on large process control systems, so learning a new language/syntax
>is not the issue.
>
>Having written that, I ask these four questions to the knowledgeable group:
>
>For simple tasks that are related to amateur radio, ie. band switching,
>automated tuner, sending morse code, etc.,
>
>What processors would you recommend that I (or anyone) look at? Notice the
>plural. Microchip, Atmel, Scenix/Ubicom and others have a boatload of
>processors to choose from. Can that be cut down to just a few from each
>vendor, with the understanding that the task will determine the best suited
>microcontroller?

For tasks such as these, where processing power isn't a limiting factor, I usually end up choosing the part that has the best mix of peripherals: parallel I/O, serial ports, timers, on-chip memory, LCD drivers, etc. Pretty much everybody offers parts with Flash for code storage, so that's not usually a deciding factor. Presence of EEPROM or a separate Flash partition that can be used for nonvolatile storage might be important, though.

>What software do you use to program the chip(s) you recommend?

For the few projects I haven't done professionally, I use whatever I could find for free on the Web. I tend to be frugal. (Grin)

>What hardware interface do you use to download the program into the
>microcontroller?

I use homebrew in-circuit or standalone serial programmers myself. (See
"frugal," above.)

>What debugging tools do you use?

Serial port, LEDs, and an oscilloscope.

>I am a firm believer in "you get what you pay for" so I am not really
>interested in doing this on the cheap, although that has to be considered.
>I am more into doing it right and doing it easy.

"Cheap" is a relative term, but you can spend as little as a few bucks or
less (with a well-stocked junk box) up to a thousand dollars for chip
programmers and high-level languages. Many of the compiler vendors have
demo versions that you can try out to see if you're comfortable with them
before buying the full version, too, so the choice is easier.

Probably the biggest hindrance to choosing a chip and development
environment is actually making the choice because there are so many
candidates. I've found that in that situation, I'm better off picking one
almost at random and switching later. Otherwise I'll never get started.

Dave

Dave Hinerman
WD8CIV@att.net

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 21:26:14 -0500
From: "bhuyck" <bhuyck@prodigy.net>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153935] Unbuilt DSW II for sale
Message-ID: <NDBBLNJFELBFIPKEIOHJEEDLELAA.bhuyck@prodigy.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have a newly received and unopened DSW II for sale. It is still in the
box as received from SWL. We are in the process of selling our home and
moving, so rather than put this on the back burner, I would rather let

someone enjoy it. Shipped for $155 to the US. Bruce KS4V

Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2003 21:36:00 -0500
From: Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>
To: alihernlem@hotmail.com,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153936] Re: [Parts] Whatsa 1N23C good fer?
Message-ID: <3.0.2.32.20030709213600.00709728@mail.9plus.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Just installed a pair of them in a Microwave Devices MD711N SWR Bridge for
a local ham. These things tend to be very static sensitive. Use good
static discharge procedures when you handle them.

>I have a box of these diodes individually packaged and made by Microwave
>Associates Inc. I understand that they are mixer diodes for up to X-band
>frequencies. Can anyone tell me more about them and what use they might be
>put to?

Chuck Carpenter, W5USJ, Point, Rains Co., TX - EM22cv, NETXQRP #1
QRP-ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, QRPp-I #115, ARS #1280, SOC #57
Zombie #759, COG #11, 6 Club #201, FP #601 http://www.netxqrp.org

Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2003 20:24:22 -0700
From: "M.M." <markem@cox.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [153937] Re: 6 hot again
Message-ID: <5.2.0.9.0.20030709202319.00b16ce8@pop.west.cox.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 22:06 07/09/03 -0400, Emmersome Bigguns wrote:
>Great opening in EM79. TX, OK, MO, AL, LA, MN.
>Not much from the east coast but plenty of sigs.

What's the best freq to monitor on 6?

73... Mark AA7TA

Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2003 20:43:06 -0700
From: "Bob Hightower" <nk7m@extremezone.com>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153938] Contest Announcement
Message-ID: <000201c34695$60ac4580$974998d0@Bobs>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

It's getting on into summertime, and time to think about operating in
BUBBA '03, the AZ ScQRPions annual heatfest.

This year's contest is scheduled for August 23, 2003 from 1800-2200Z.
Categories are single op, multi-single and multi-multi (club).

The rules can be found at
 http://www.extremezone.com/~nk7m/bubba03.htm

Hope to catch many of you there.

Bob NK7M

Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2003 21:33:06 -0700
From: Adam Farson <farson@shaw.ca>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@LEHIGH.EDU>
Subject: [153939] RE: (fwd) Have You Been Harmed By Lead Solder?
Message-ID: <DMEILAEADPNBAHKBNMMHIEOCFIAA.farson@shaw.ca>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Perhaps DHS should investigate the sources of funding of the groups and
individuals who are attempting to raise this issue...

Cheers for now, 73,
Adam VA7OJ/AB4OJ

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 00:33:44 -0500
From: w9ya <w9ya@arrl.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153940] 817 and pacomm rigs for sale
Message-ID: <200307100033.44753.w9ya@arrl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

Hey there;

I have a friends' 817 for sale with the inrad-collins 300hz cw filter installed. Used only for two days. Once when new (a couple of years ago) and then again over fd weekend for a few contacts.. It is in fine shape, with a few minor scratches on one side towards the back. Functionally it is as it was originally purchased.

It comes with the mic, manual, schematic, pocket reference manual and two "vadem style" cheat-sheets. The strap itself is also there but missing the length adjuster and end hold down on one side only, but I am sure a local camping or cloth-craft shop has something appropriate for replacements.

I also dug up the original 2 piece 6 meter bnc antenna, and the original power cord, which was modified with an inline fuse and reverse polarity protection diode.

My friend is older and has a debilitating condition. He was looking forward to selling this and his recently acquired smaller pacomm (40/20m) rig to help finance a k2 purchase. I will be handling the sales for him.

Bob Finch
w9ya

p.s. The pacomm is quite new, looks like it, and has maybe been used twice also. Comes complete as far as I can tell.

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 0:36:47 -0500
From: "Doc K0EVZ" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
To: "qrp-l reflector" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Cc: "doc k0evz earthlink" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
Subject: [153941] [re]Upcoming Contests?
Message-ID: <412003741053647958@earthlink.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Gang:

WOW!!--the response has been fantastic. Thanks to all who wrote back. I will be operating portable from Albuquerque, NM. Living in a hotel while house-hunting. Here's hoping to hear a lot of fellow QRPers this weekend. Thanks again!

73,
--Doc/K0EVZ

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 02:24:00 -0400
From: Ed Tanton <n4xy@earthlink.net>
To: qrpl@DpPros.com,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153942] Re: OHR Scaf vs. Idiom Press Scaf
Message-ID: <5.2.1.1.2.20030710022035.03b55928@pop.earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

I have the OHR Scott, and it's a GREAT little filter. Works very nicely. When I looked at the Idiom, I noticed it has a fully variable center frequency (as I recall) vs the OHR which has a 4 position switch (again: as I recall.) The result would be a better match for whatever your favorite CW-note is.

The thing is: I'm not about to disconnect one of my NIR-12s and take it camping/etc. These SCAF filters provide nicely steep-sided audio filtration w/o ringing, and are quite portable. And not so expensive that an accident of some sort is going to kill your wallet to replace.

73 Ed Tanton N4XY <n4xy@earthlink.net>

Ed Tanton N4XY
189 Pioneer Trail
Marietta, GA 30068-3466

website: http://www.n4xy.com

All emails <IN> & <OUT> checked by
Norton AntiVirus with AutoProtect

LM: ARRL QCWA AMSAT & INDEXA;
SEDXC NCDXA GACW QRP-ARCI
OK-QRP QRP-L #758 K2 (FT) #00057

"He that gives up a little liberty to gain
temporary security will lose both and
deserve neither".
--Benjamin Franklin

"Suppose you were an idiot ...
and suppose you were a member of
Congress... but I repeat myself."
--Mark Twain

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 02:28:10 -0400
From: Ed Tanton <n4xy@earthlink.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153943] Re: 1N23C Handling Techniques
Message-ID: <5.2.1.1.2.20030710022632.03b49890@pop.earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

They're not kidding about the static business. Best way to handle or
transport them is the small aluminum foil square folded/wrapped around them.

73 Ed Tanton N4XY <n4xy@earthlink.net>

Ed Tanton N4XY
189 Pioneer Trail
Marietta, GA 30068-3466

website: http://www.n4xy.com

All emails <IN> & <OUT> checked by
Norton AntiVirus with AutoProtect

LM: ARRL QCWA AMSAT & INDEXA;
SEDXC NCDXA GACW QRP-ARCI
OK-QRP QRP-L #758 K2 (FT) #00057

"He that gives up a little liberty to gain
temporary security will lose both and
deserve neither".
--Benjamin Franklin

"Suppose you were an idiot ...
and suppose you were a member of
Congress... but I repeat myself."
--Mark Twain

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 01:21:41 -0600
From: "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
To: qRP-L@lehigh.edu
Subject: [153944] Fox Notice K0FRP for Sunday
Message-ID: <3F0CBFA5.22630.321B081@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-description: Mail message body

Being out of town I access my email via web mail.

I am unable to subscribe to QRP-L using my new Comcast email
address. I can receive email because Comcast forwards my old
AT&T broadband address. But it will not recognize my Comcast
address until I get home July 18th.

I will be a Fox along with Tom AC7C on Sunday the 13th . I
will have a loop up and ready to go. Where I will be either
High or low will determine when Tom and I decide.

Tom Email me at alk0frp@comcast.net or alk0frp@attbi.com

Make a good show guys it’s tough for an old man to get
up on the 500 ft tower in this humidity. No I will not go up
much more than 40 feet. That’s all coax I have with
me.
Thanks to ET - N1FN for post on QRP-L
Good luck Al K0FRP

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 06:50:39 -0400
From: John Nall <jnall01@alltel.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [153945] Re: More PIC questions
Message-ID: <5.2.0.9.0.20030710064331.00b69090@mail.alltel.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 06:23 PM 7/9/2003 -0500, AJ4AY wrote:

> >What processors would you recommend that I (or anyone) look at?

I personally recommend that you stay with the MicroChip (PIC) line. Not because they are necessarily better in an architectural sense but because (a) there is a lot more helpful material on the Internet, and (b) there is a lot more pre-existing code available.

> >What software do you use to program the chip(s) you recommend?

I use MPASM, the assembler made available by MicroChip at no cost. You can download their MPLAB package which includes not only the assembler, but also a really nice simulator. There is also Gnu stuff available under Linux (if the last sentence makes no sense to you then ignore it. :-)

> >What hardware interface do you use to download the program into the >microcontroller?

Wisp628 programmer. I believe the kit was around $20 or so, and put together in an hour. Has to have a PC, of course, and runs under either Windows or Linux. Uses a serial port.

> >What debugging tools do you use?

The MPLAB simulator, LED's on the breadboard.

John AF4WM

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 05:23:53 -0600 (MDT)
From: Karl Larsen <k5di@msn.com>
To: James Duffey <JamesDuffey@comcast.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153946] Re: Forget about the art

Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0307100517300.1262-100000@bucket.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi Jim, to do ASCII art you need Linux. It comes with a Word
Star editor called 'joe'. You can set joe up to see EVERYTHING! You
quickly see why some letters cannot join together
but others
work pretty
good. With joe you can fool around until it looks right. But it takes a
lot of time.

On Wed, 9 Jul 2003, James Duffey wrote:

> Well my second
> attempt at ASCII art
> didn't work either.
> The connection to the
> radials is at the
> center of the radials.
> I am not sure why it
> is shifted in my art,
> but I am sure it is due
> to my incompetence.
> - Dr. Megacycle
> KK6MC/5
> James Duffey
> Portable in Ballston
> New York for the
> week
>
>
>

--

- Karl Larsen k5di Las Cruces,NM Az ScQRPions -

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 07:45:19 -0400
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: kd7snx@earthlink.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153947] Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer

Message-ID: <3F0D51CF.B3FDBFC4@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Rob,

Wouldn't it be neater to go a step further. Back around 1976 I wanted a keyer. I looked around and soon identified the AccuKeyer as meeting my needs. I ordered the board and ordered the parts I needed (all f them!). I proceeded to embark on packaging the unit. When you build a kit you rob yourself of these parts of the job. They are as rewarding as building the kit and teach you more than "fit tab a into slot b". In 1978 I moved to Europe, where I was faced with converting the power to 20 volts. I also converted the speed control to a switch so I could have predictable speeds. All of this without having to be a "designer". All of this from a bare board. I still get a useful accessory with only my creativity added to the mix. I learned MUCH more than I would have learned from just a kit!

73

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 08:14:09 -0400
From: "John Huffman" <hjohnc@core.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153948] Results - July Spartan Sprint
Message-ID: <008401c346dd$aa7c5ea0$25075dd8@jhuffmanlt>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Results of the July 2003 Spartan Sprint
While many a soapbox comment complained of the conditions on the bands, it was a very active Sprint. The average score of the top ten finishers was the second highest for any month in the last year. The total contacts reported by all participants were fourth highest in the last year. Thunderstorms filled 40 meters with QRN and 20 too, in some places. But there were also lots of Sprinters between the crashes.

Twenty meters was the workhorse as can be seen from the band statistics below:

80M - 5 QSOs

40M - 530 QSOs

20M - 1115 QSOs

15M - 41 QSOs

10M - 0 QSOs

Total - 1691 QSOs reported.

The total number of logs was 76, exactly the same as in June.

Skinny Winners -

First place finisher W7GA used an AT Sprint with lithium power to rack up 37 contacts on two bands. Greg had an impressive 62 points per pound.

Second place went to K7RE. Brian had 68 twenty meter contacts including a Russian station that wanted his state, county and FISTS number.

Bob N4BP was third in this division and second overall with his four band K1 setup.

Tubby Division Winners -

First overall was Jim WA9TZE who had 113 contacts on three bands. Jim's effort centered on 40 meters and he even had the only contacts reported on 80 meters.

Bob N4BP was second in this division with his even 100 contacts on 20, 40

and 15 meters.

K3TW Tom was third overall with 89 points, also on 20, 40, and 15 meters.

Special Recognition, Outside Operation -

There were six outsiders for July.

AC6NT - "I found a hill in my neighborhood who's elevation is at 1100 feet. It's about a 300 foot climb from the fire road."

AE6NH - "This was my first attempt at the "adventure" mode during the Spartan Sprint. Operated from my backyard."

KL0WN - "I was operating portable from alongside the road at Spruce Cape, on Kodiak Island. My set-up attracted a great deal of attention. During the 1-1/2 hours I was operating, I had at least a half-dozen folks stop by to ask me what I was doing."

W0NTA - "Used a K1 and a temporary 40 meter inverted vee fed with twin lead set up in the back yard."

WA0RSE - "Only had an hour from home but had a ball! Thanks to all and next time maybe I'll see you from the field."

WB9OQB - "I sat out in the backyard running my ft-817 into a homebrew St. Louis vertical."

There were also a few portables - K3ESE in California on business. N8WE operated from church shelter. K0EWS on vacation in Iowa.

Each contact received one point. If you didn't tell us the weight of your station, or if your station weighed more than a Wisconsin cow (tnx N9NE), we assigned a weight of 30 pounds.

The soapbox is published separately in the July issue of The ARS Sojourner which comes out mid-month. Don't miss it! www.ARSqrp.com

We hope everyone had a good time. Don't forget the Flight of the Bumblebees on July 27th!

THE SKINNY DIVISION (results sorted in the order of points per pound)

Call	80M	40M	20M	15M	10M	Points	Weight	Points Per Pound
W7GA	0	2	35	0	0	37	0.594	62.29
K7RE	0	0	68	0	0	68	1.625	41.85
N4BP	0	11	80	9	0	100	2.49	40.16
N9JXY	0	6	0	0	0	6	0.27	22.22
WJ9B	0	16	0	0	0	16	0.75	21.33
KW4JS	0	15	35	0	0	50	3	16.67
KO4WX	0	10	18	0	0	28	2	14
N1KSN	0	17	0	0	0	17	1.33	12.78
KI0II	0	1	41	2	0	44	3.5	12.57
WA7LNW	0	0	37	0	0	37	3.5	10.57
AE6N	0	10	7	0	0	17	1.75	9.71
K3ESE	0	12	3	0	0	15	1.7	8.82
K4FDK	0	10	0	0	0	10	1.4	7.14
K9YT	0	0	7	0	0	7	1	7
AC6NT	0	0	9	0	0	9	1.362	6.61
W1PID	0	9	4	0	0	13	2	6.5
NK0E	0	0	21	0	0	21	3.25	6.46
W1ZZL	0	6	7	0	0	13	2.1	6.19
N8WE	0	0	12	0	0	12	2	6
K6RXL	0	1	11	0	0	12	2	6
VE3ELA	0	15	8	0	0	23	4.1	5.61
KG4GVL	0	8	6	2	0	16	3	5.33
N3AO	0	24	8	0	0	32	6	5.33
KBOLCK	0	1	8	0	0	9	1.8	5

KI0G	0	2	2	0	0	4	0.8	5
WA4CIT	0	14	28	0	0	42	8.82	4.76
K0EX	0	71	0	0	0	71	15	4.73
AA5CK	0	2	16	4	0	22	5	4.4
NA8M	0	13	39	0	0	52	12	4.33
WA9TZE	5	63	45	0	0	113	30	3.77
AA8PJ	0	0	14	0	0	14	4	3.5
N0JRN	0	4	31	0	0	35	10.2	3.43
WB8ICN	0	4	15	0	0	19	6	3.17
K3TW	0	31	49	9	0	89	30	2.97
N9RY	0	0	10	0	0	10	3.5	2.86
K4GT	0	0	16	0	0	16	6	2.67
AB4VF	0	5	13	1	0	19	7.5	2.53
KE4R	0	25	17	0	0	42	17	2.47
KD7GIM	0	0	5	0	0	5	2.1	2.38
AE6NH	0	4	0	0	0	4	1.8	2.22
K0EWS	0	2	9	0	0	11	5	2.2
KL0WN	0	0	5	0	0	5	2.35	2.13
N7LT	0	4	59	0	0	63	30	2.1
N9NE	0	16	39	8	0	63	30	2.1
W6RGG	0	0	62	0	0	62	30	2.07
W2BVH	0	5	9	0	0	14	7	2
KA3WMJ	0	7	6	1	0	14	7.5	1.87
K7RVX	0	0	10	0	0	10	5.5	1.82
W0NTA	0	0	48	0	0	48	30	1.6
N0YGY	0	0	11	0	0	11	8.5	1.29
KH6B	0	0	5	0	0	5	4.2	1.19
KG6WP	0	8	3	1	0	12	12	1
VE5QRP	0	1	10	0	0	11	11	1
WA1VGB	0	3	0	0	0	3	3	1
N7RVD	0	0	6	0	0	6	6	1
AL7FS	0	0	7	0	0	7	8	0.88
K5JHP	0	6	18	0	0	24	30	0.8
K4BX	0	4	17	3	0	24	30	0.8
AB6SO	0	2	9	0	0	11	15	0.73
K8KFJ	0	9	11	0	0	20	30	0.67
W8HF	0	0	1	0	0	1	2.2	0.45
VE1CHS	0	9	0	0	0	9	20	0.45
KO4PY	0	13	0	0	0	13	30	0.43
K6UIZ	0	5	7	0	0	12	30	0.4
W7WIK	0	9	1	0	0	10	30	0.33
WB6HQK	0	6	4	0	0	10	30	0.33
K3AS	0	4	6	0	0	10	30	0.33
WA0RSE	0	0	8	1	0	9	30	0.3
WB9OQB	0	0	3	0	0	3	10.5	0.29
KL7RHJ	0	0	4	0	0	4	16	0.25
K0IOA	0	2	3	0	0	5	30	0.17
W6ZIP	0	3	2	0	0	5	30	0.17

KC5TTY	0	0	3	0	0	3	30	0.1
KH6HE	0	0	1	0	0	1	10	0.1
KI7N	0	0	2	0	0	2	30	0.07
KC5GXL	0	0	1	0	0	1	30	0.03

THE TUBBY DIVISION (results sorted in the order of points)

Call	80M	40M	20M	15M	10M	Points
WA9TZE	5	63	45	0	0	113
N4BP	0	11	80	9	0	100
K3TW	0	31	49	9	0	89
K0EX	0	71	0	0	0	71
K7RE	0	0	68	0	0	68
N7LT	0	4	59	0	0	63
N9NE	0	16	39	8	0	63
W6RGG	0	0	62	0	0	62
NA8M	0	13	39	0	0	52
KW4JS	0	15	35	0	0	50
W0NTA	0	0	48	0	0	48
KI0II	0	1	41	2	0	44
WA4CIT	0	14	28	0	0	42
KE4R	0	25	17	0	0	42
WA7LNW	0	0	37	0	0	37
W7GA	0	2	35	0	0	37
N0JRN	0	4	31	0	0	35
N3AO	0	24	8	0	0	32
KO4WX	0	10	18	0	0	28
K5JHP	0	6	18	0	0	24
K4BX	0	4	17	3	0	24
VE3ELA	0	15	8	0	0	23
AA5CK	0	2	16	4	0	22
NK0E	0	0	21	0	0	21
K8KFJ	0	9	11	0	0	20
WB8ICN	0	4	15	0	0	19
AB4VF	0	5	13	1	0	19
AE6N	0	10	7	0	0	17
N1KSN	0	17	0	0	0	17
K4GT	0	0	16	0	0	16
KG4GVL	0	8	6	2	0	16
WJ9B	0	16	0	0	0	16
K3ESE	0	12	3	0	0	15
AA8PJ	0	0	14	0	0	14
W2BVH	0	5	9	0	0	14
KA3WMJ	0	7	6	1	0	14
KO4PY	0	13	0	0	0	13
W1PID	0	9	4	0	0	13
W1ZZL	0	6	7	0	0	13
KG6WP	0	8	3	1	0	12
K6UIZ	0	5	7	0	0	12

N8WE	0	0	12	0	0	12
K6RXL	0	1	11	0	0	12
K0EWS	0	2	9	0	0	11
VE5QRP	0	1	10	0	0	11
N0YGY	0	0	11	0	0	11
AB6SO	0	2	9	0	0	11
K4FDK	0	10	0	0	0	10
W7WIK	0	9	1	0	0	10
WB6HQK	0	6	4	0	0	10
N9RY	0	0	10	0	0	10
K3AS	0	4	6	0	0	10
K7RVX	0	0	10	0	0	10
VE1CHS	0	9	0	0	0	9
AC6NT	0	0	9	0	0	9
KBOLCK	0	1	8	0	0	9
WA0RSE	0	0	8	1	0	9
K9YT	0	0	7	0	0	7
AL7FS	0	0	7	0	0	7
N9JXY	0	6	0	0	0	6
N7RVD	0	0	6	0	0	6
K0IOA	0	2	3	0	0	5
KD7GIM	0	0	5	0	0	5
W6ZIP	0	3	2	0	0	5
KH6B	0	0	5	0	0	5
KL0WN	0	0	5	0	0	5
AE6NH	0	4	0	0	0	4
KL7RHJ	0	0	4	0	0	4
KI0G	0	2	2	0	0	4
WB9OQB	0	0	3	0	0	3
KC5TTY	0	0	3	0	0	3
WA1VGB	0	3	0	0	0	3
KI7N	0	0	2	0	0	2
W8HF	0	0	1	0	0	1
KC5GXL	0	0	1	0	0	1
KH6HE	0	0	1	0	0	1

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 08:30:32 -0400
From: Vin Santis <vsantis@earthlink.net>
To: "Tentec (E-mail)" <tentec@contesting.com>
Cc: "QRP List (E-mail)" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153949] Limited space antenna
Message-ID: <01C346BD.9C183020.vsantis@earthlink.net>

Good morning,

I'm faced with having to make an antenna change because of severely resticted space. I wannt to operate on 75/40 meters in order to continue a sked with friends within a 500 mile radius. This will not be my only antenna since I also luse a vertical successfully. My thought is to use two Ham stSticks for each band as shortened dipoles mounted on the same mast and separated 2 to 3 feet from each other. I'll appreciate any comments on this arrangement or alternatives to it.

TIA,

Vince Santis, N1VS
Winsted, CT
vsantis@earthlink.net

Outgoing mail is certified Virus Free.
Checked by AVG anti-virus system (http://www.grisoft.com).
Version: 6.0.498 / Virus Database: 297 - Release Date: 7/8/03

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 08:59:08 -0400
From: "John L. Sielke" <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [153950] Re: Fox Notice K0FRP for Sunday
Message-ID: <oprr3icursn9p1ib@smtp.comcast.net>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-15; format=flowed
MIME-Version: 1.0

It just occurred to me, the Fox Hunt will overlap the QRP ARCI Summer HB Sprint this Sunday. While there is time, any thought given to moving the Fox Hunt for this?

Just asking...

John W2AGN

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 07:03:34 -0600

From: Tim Groat <tcgroat@earthlink.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [153951] Re: battery backup for home station
Message-ID: <5.1.1.6.2.20030710061648.00a33040@mail.earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Be careful when using multi stage charging in a system with a load. Most of the multi-stage chargers, including those with the Unitrode control IC, switch over to the fast charge rate based on output current. The risk is that load current can trick the charger to switching to the fast charge voltage when battery is already fully charged. That over-charges the battery, which causes it to consume water and increases internal corrosion. The water loss is especially bad for sealed batteries (because you can't replace the water). Internal corrosion will reduce the life of any storage battery, and it's not reversible. When you have variable loads, the best practice is to charge only at the float rate. Automatic fast charge is best used with no load, so that the charger output current is exactly the same as the battery current.

The original post mentioned using an Astron RS-35M power supply to charge the batteries. While it's inviting to use something you already have, that's not an ideal solution. First, the RS-35 supply will deliver at least 35A at current limit. That may be too much charge current, especially if it's small or a sealed battery. Second, the RS-35 has both CCS (continuous) and ICAS (intermittent) current ratings. Running it at current limit for a long time exceeds its CCS rating, and may damage it. Power supplies use current limit like the rpm limiter in a car engine--it's a safety over-ride, not something you're supposed to use constantly. Battery chargers use current limit like the governor in a lawn mower engine--it controls the speed in normal use. A good battery charger or a current-limiting solar panel charge controller would be a better choice; both are designed to handle their rated output current continuously.

In every case, follow the battery manufacturer's charging recommendations. They aren't all the same. A few tenths of a volt does make a difference in the performance and life of your battery.

72,

--Tim (KR0U)

>NB6M@aol.com:
>
>One solution to provide "mindless" operation, taking care of all the proper
>charging needs of your battery while providing lots of power for your radio,
>would be to operate your radio from the battery all the time, and use a smart
>charger such as either the 10 or 20 amp battery chargers made by Xantrex

>to keep
>your battery charged and properly maintained.
>
>http://www.xantrex.com/
>
>These chargers provide for multiple stage charging and have isolation diodes
>built in so as to be able to charge up to three battery banks independently,
>depending on the model chosen.

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 09:42:38 -0400
From: "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@direcway.com>
To: <w6toy@erols.com>,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153952] Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
Message-ID: <05c301c346e9$21049aa0$2202a8c0@J4>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Bruce -
You must not have built any of Melt Solder's kits. It is a heck of a lot more than "fit tab a into slot b".

While "scratch-building" a 2N2-40 was a great challenge (with commensurate reward), building and de-bugging one of Steve's projects provides a bunch of challenge and reward also.

We are a lucky group of folks who've been blessed by Jim Kortege, Steve Weber, Small Wonder Lab, NJQRP and the NorCal folks. I'd buy a blind subscription to anything they come out with. [Please let there be another run of AT Sprints!!!]

73 de Lee
KM4YY/8

----- Original Message -----
From: "Bruce Muscolino" <w6toy@erols.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2003 7:45 AM
Subject: Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer

>
> Rob,
>
> Wouldn't it be neater to go a step further. Back around 1976 I wanted a
> keyer. I looked around and soon identified the AccuKeyer as meeting my
> needs. I ordered the board and ordered the parts I needed (all f
> them!). I proceeded to embark on packaging the unit. When you build a
> kit you rob yourself of these parts of the job. They are as rewarding
> as building the kit and teach you more than "fit tab a into slot b". In
> 1978 I moved to Europe, where I was faced with converting the power to
> 20 volts. I also converted the speed control to a switch so I could
> have predictable speeds. All of this without having to be a
> "designer". All of this from a bare board. I still get a useful
> accessory with only my creativity added to the mix. I learned MUCH more
> than I would have learned from just a kit!
>
> 73
>

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 07:47:25 -0600
From: "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.us>
To: "qrp-l" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, <elecraft@mailman.qth.net>,
 "cqc-l" <CQCLIST@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [153953] FS: Antenna Items
Message-ID: <011f01c346e9$ccb0f7e0$6501a8c0@greyrock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Folks,

I have for sale a PW-1, a Larsen MagMount (with whip), and Larsen NMO
permanent mount (no whip). See http://www.frii.com/~rwc/fs/ant/ant.html
for details.

73, Rod N0RC

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 09:44:56 -0400
From: Noah Lorang <NoahLorang@nc.rr.com>

To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [153954] Capacitor, diode, transistor, etc. kits
Message-ID: <5.1.0.14.0.20030710094215.00a7baf0@pop-server.nc.rr.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Hi all,

Any club (AmQRP or otherwise) planning on making any capacitor, transistor, diode, or other kits in the style of the NorCal Resistor and Toroid kits?

I got the resistor kit the day it was announced and just sent off an order for one of the remaining toroid kits Doug Hendricks said was around, but I'm looking for a source of a wide variety of capacitors and other components at a reasonable cost. The resistor kit was probably the best deal on components I've ever seen, and I'd much rather buy a capacitor kit than try to pick a variety myself.

Any club or individual have plans to do this? I know NorCal did a variety of kits in the past, any plans for the future?

Thanks,

Noah

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 10:06:43 -0400
From: "Charles W3KC" <w3kc@starpower.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153955] Re: Triplett Meter Battery
Message-ID: <000001c346ec$adefb5a0$62032c42@w3kc>

> I get mine from Radioshack.com. Search their site for 30 volt Eveready. BTW,

A little hard to find with their search engine but it is RS part # 960-0438

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 08:01:09 -0600
From: "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>
To: <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153956] 706MKllGon 60 meters

Message-ID: <001901c346eb$b8746300$93ca1341@callahan>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Has anyone modified the IC 706MKllG for 60 meters and if so how much of a job
is it. Icom says it can't do it Thanks 72 Cal KF7ET

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 09:31:37 -0500 (CDT)
From: Dale Botkin <dale@botkin.org>
To: Jay Henson <aj4ay@worldnet.att.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153957] Re: More PIC questions
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0307100746570.17880-100000@madmax.botkin.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Wed, 9 Jul 2003, Jay Henson wrote:

> For simple tasks that are related to amateur radio, ie. band switching,
> automated tuner, sending morse code, etc.,
>
> What processors would you recommend that I (or anyone) look at?

Microchip for sure, never tried Atmel AVR but sounds OK. I just have
never found anything there compelling enough to get me to switch over,
whih would be a major switch for me.

> What software do you use to program the chip(s) you recommend?

I personally use the CCS C compiler for the PICs. Before that (pre-1999)
I used MPLAB.

> What hardware interface do you use to download the program into the
> microcontroller?

EPIC+ from www.melabs.com, been using it since 1995. Does all PICs, even
the new ones,regular software updates. Never had a problem with it, made
a cable I use with it for in-circuit progeamming.

> What debugging tools do you use?

M1 noggin. Used to use the MPLAB simulator a lot, though. The PICList is
also an invaluable debugging tool.

73,
Dale - N0XAS
--
It's a thankless job, but I've got a lot of Karma to burn off.
Get a PicoKeyer: http://www.hamgadgets.com

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 10:44:49 -0400
From: "sslyon" <sslyon@megalink.net>
To: "qrp list" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, "NEQRP LIST" <neqrp@jonal.net>
Subject: [153958] Lobstercon = K1T
Message-ID: <001d01c346f1$d0fe5f60$0ac8e742@megalink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Yep... Rex got the K1T (for 'kit') special event call sign for Lobstercon, and that should give a clue as to a key aspect of the weekend :) If prop is good we should be able to cover the continent and EU easily with twin 44's in a Lazy-H configuration, an 88, and various other experiments cobbled together on the spot. The trees are really big (50'-65') at this location very near the salt water beach.

We'll be pecking away at the usual watering holes for the duration, with my fave being 30m. Of course others will be on the air using their own call signs as well... hope the front ends hold up. We may jump in to the contests for a bit as well, depending on featured activities.... so keep an ear tuned for us!
72/73
aa1my

Seabury & Sharon Lyon
99 Sparrowhawk Mtn Rd
Bethel ME, 04217 U.S.A.
207-836-2576

Virus Protection by Norton and ZoneAlarm

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 14:44:22 +0000
From: "Brad Hernlem" <alihernlem@hotmail.com>
To: w5usj@9plus.net
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Subject: [153959] Re: [Parts] Whatsa 1N23C good fer?
Message-ID: <Law9-F8369RKLpgTFur00004c5d@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Chuck,

Thanks for the info.

I suppose that the static sensitivity would imply that whatever circuit uses these should be pretty low impedance. Do you have a circuit description of that bridge?

Brad KG6IOE

>From: Chuck Carpenter <w5usj@9plus.net>

>Just installed a pair of them in a Microwave Devices MD711N SWR Bridge for
>a local ham. These things tend to be very static sensitive. Use good
>static discharge procedures when you handle them.
>
> >I have a box of these diodes individually packaged and made by Microwave
> >Associates Inc. I understand that they are mixer diodes for up to X-band
> >frequencies. Can anyone tell me more about them and what use they might
>be
> >put to?
>
>
>
>Chuck Carpenter, W5USJ, Point, Rains Co., TX - EM22cv, NETXQRP #1
>QRP-ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, QRPp-I #115, ARS #1280, SOC #57
>Zombie #759, COG #11, 6 Club #201, FP #601 http://www.netxqrp.org

Add photos to your e-mail with MSN 8. Get 2 months FREE*.
http://join.msn.com/?page=features/featuredemail

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 09:56:03 -0500 (CDT)
From: Dale Botkin <dale@botkin.org>
To: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153960] Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0307100946170.18244-100000@madmax.botkin.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Thu, 10 Jul 2003, Bruce Muscolino wrote:

> Back around 1976 I wanted a keyer. I looked around and soon
> identified the AccuKeyer as meeting my needs. I ordered the board and
> ordered the parts I needed (all f them!). I proceeded to embark on
> packaging the unit. When you build a kit you rob yourself of these
> parts of the job.
8< snip...
> I learned MUCH more than I would have learned from just a kit!

But isn't that still building a kit? You just had to order parts from wherever to make up the kit first. Put another way, back in early 2003 I wanted a keyer. I looked around and decided I wanted it done my way, so I started from scratch and built my own from the chip up. Point is, I've been doing this sort of thing for a good number of years, starting with kits back around 1976. I certainly could not have done that as my first project. I think kits are a great way to get newbies into things -- eventually some will look at the kit and say, "Hey, I'd really like it better *this* way. Wonder how I could do that?", and there you go - another QRP homebrewer.

Kits do teach valuable things. For real newbies they can be used to learn soldering and component identification and the fact that electronic devices don't *HAVE TO* come from Japanese or Chinese factories via Best Buy or Wal-Mart or even HRO. Later on they can be used as exploratory projects to learn what actually makes them work, and how you can make changes to change how they work. I have been asked to teach a bunch of Boy Scouts wha tthey need to know for their Radio and Electronics merit badges... you can bet there will be LED blinkies and audio amps and CW keyers/code practice oscillators to be had.

72,
Dale - N0XAS
--
It's a thankless job, but I've got a lot of Karma to burn off.
Get a PicoKeyer: http://www.hamgadgets.com

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 11:04:07 -0400
From: "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Cc: "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>
Subject: [153961] Re: 706MKllGon 60 meters
Message-ID: <004101c346f4$ee903aa0$010044c0@chartermi.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'm guessing that to do it you would need to give up 40.

The 706 has a separate pi network per band. I suspect that the 4-8 MHz network probably provides the right impedance transform for 7 MHz, but would be badly mismatched at 5. The receive sensitivity of the 706 tends to get poorer the farther you get from a ham band, too, probably the same effect.

72/73 de WB8RCR http://www.qsl.net/wb8rcr
didileydadidah QRP-L #1446 Code Warriors #35

----- Original Message -----
From: "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2003 10:01 AM
Subject: 706MKllGon 60 meters

> Has anyone modified the IC 706MKllG for 60 meters and if so how much of a job
> is it. Icom says it can't do it Thanks 72 Cal KF7ET
>

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 08:22:54 -0700
From: "Davies, Doug A FOR:EX" <Doug.Davies@gems3.gov.bc.ca>
To: "'qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153962] Meter Battery Thanks
Message-ID: <08D18BEFE0F59E4EB2BB78107B5A5271017377EB@blaze.bcsc.gov.bc.ca>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"

For those of you who pointed me to the Energizer web site in search of the battery for my Triplett meter, I thank you. I searched that site exhaustively, or so I thought, and didn't find a thing. That's the main reason I posted the request to the list. I just didn't want everyone to think I didn't put out SOME effeort prior to posting :-(. And, to the other suggestions made, thank you as well. I'm sure I now have enough info to find that battery.

Doug VA7DD

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 10:27:30 -0500
From: Jeff Davis <jeff@ke9v.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [153963] Doh!
Message-ID: <20030710152730.GA13888@ke9v.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Disposition: inline

The mailman brought my new DSW-II on Monday...about an hour before we
left on vacation. Been sitting in the hotel most of this week watching
it storm and storm and storm...

I wish I had brought the DSW-II and tools now...

I wanna go home!

--
Jeff, Ke9v

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 08:34:56 -0700
From: "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153964] Re: Triplett Meter Battery
Message-ID: <MABBJOEABOILMKCJCLFCAELAEIAA.n6wg@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The battery probably doesn't see much current drain, or it wouldn't last so
long.
If you can't find a direct replacement, maybe you could make one up from
some
of the very small cells that are available these days.
73, Bob N6WG

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 11:05:08 -0400

From: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [153965] 44 Wye
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20030710110508.007b6820@mailhost.ncia.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Getting a diople up in woods around here is a lot of work. I haven't had much luck with end feed wires, but I have had good luck with 3 wire "Wye" verticals, at least one cut for 20M and feed with coax. A multi-band version would be nice.

So, I got to wondering, what would happen if you took a 44 foot doublet and hung it vertically, then added another piece of wire to make it a three wire Wye vertical?

Last night I hung one up in the tree next to the cabin and tried it out. Got the appex about 8 feet off the ground and feed with 75 ohm ladder line. Using a NorCal BLT and Tenna Dipper, found I could get a perfict match on 20 and 30 and nearly perfict on 40.

I tried it out on 20M, and as one would expect, DX came in pretty good. Made two QRP SSB contacts, one to Poland and one to Coratia, with a 59+ and 55 report, repectively. I'll try to make some Q's on 40 with it tonight.

All in all, I think this antenna will work out pretty well.

72,
Steve, KD1JV
"Melt Solder"
White Mountains of New Hampshire
http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 10:42:49 -0500
From: "Boulineau, Lee" <lee.boulineau@attws.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153966] RE: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
Message-ID: <90B09553A615CE4192A646D8CFA67DA81C8796@TX-MSG05-CCC.wireless.attws.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
content-class: urn:content-classes:message

I've decided to throw in my two cents worth.

There are "Kits with all the Bits" as Alan Lake (Lake Electronics) would say - like the Ten-Tec, MFJ, Heathkit, Elecraft et al. they are complete with cases, knobs, all hardware and a silk-screened PCB, they come with a detailed construction manual and often include a tutorial on basic soldering technique.....let's call these the "Betty Crocker" kits, because it's like baking a cake by reading the back of the box.=20

Next, you have kits like the NoGaWatt and similar kits.....no case, knobs, hardware, and a more-limited construction manual.....these take a little more experience because the manuals are less complete, the PCB isn't silk-screened, you have to cobble together connectors and a case.

There are some kits where you basically get a bag of parts, some PCB material, a basic schematic and (maybe) a part placement =20 guide.....an example of this is the SideKick receiver that was sold by the Fort Smith QRP Group (and I hope will be sold by someone else - maybe the Four State QRP group). Yes, it is a kit, but I would NEVER ask a beginner to take it on because you have to figure out the placement of parts, the setup of the circuitry.....These kits are not a real big step above rolling your own!!!=20

Look at it this way - these are stepping stones - I can't think of a better way to learn to "roll your own" by building a couple of "Betty Crocker" kits, then moving up to kits with limited docs and info, then modding some of these kits, then adapting some of these circuits to other bands, uses, et al. to starting with an IC or a transistor and designing a project around it. Each step brings new challenges and new experiences.....and results in the reward of seeing and hearing the project work (and netting a QSO or two with it!)!!

73 de N4MVL Lee
"Credo Ergo Loquor"

-----Original Message-----
From: Dale Botkin [mailto:dale@botkin.org]
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2003 10:56 AM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer

On Thu, 10 Jul 2003, Bruce Muscolino wrote:

> Back around 1976 I wanted a keyer. I looked around and soon
> identified the AccuKeyer as meeting my needs. I ordered the board and

> ordered the parts I needed (all f them!). I proceeded to embark on
> packaging the unit. When you build a kit you rob yourself of these
> parts of the job.
8< snip...
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But isn't that still building a kit? You just had to order parts from
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eventually some will look at the kit and say, "Hey, I'd really like it
better *this* way. Wonder how I could do that?", and there you go -
another QRP homebrewer.

Kits do teach valuable things. For real newbies they can be used to
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Boy Scouts wha tthey need to know for their Radio and Electronics merit
badges... you can bet there will be LED blinkies and audio amps and CW
keyers/code practice oscillators to be had.

72,
Dale - N0XAS
--=20
It's a thankless job, but I've got a lot of Karma to burn off.
Get a PicoKeyer: http://www.hamgadgets.com

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 11:40:42 -0400
From: "AI2Q" <ai2q@adelphia.net>
To: <n4qa@hotmail.com>,
 "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153967] RE: Digitally controlled cap
Message-ID: <000501c346f9$a0052a80$7e01a8c0@hq.cmp.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Take a look at the Xicor review at
http://www.chipcenter.com/knowledge_centers/memory/product_review/showArticl
e.jhtml?articleID=9901188

Vy 73, AI2Q, Alex in Kennebunk, Maine QRP-L #687
http://users.adelphia.net/~alexmm/ai2q.htm

 .-.-.

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU]On Behalf Of
Bill, N4QA
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2003 4:33 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: Digitally controlled cap

Sounds like a 5-bit D/A and a varicap diode etc.

73.
Bill, N4QA
http://www.n4qa.com

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 12:02:05 -0400
From: "Steve Blary" <steve@eclipsecat.com>
To: "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153968] RE: 706MKllGon 60 meters
Message-ID: <PPEIIGOHKOAKJAPHAODHMECFEHAA.steve@eclipsecat.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Check these 2 sites out but do so at your own risk!

http://www.mods.dk/

http://www.io.com/~phalinx/icom/706gmod.html

You might want to join th Icom 706 group at yahoo and check out the recent archives for comments from those who have performed the mod (I have not)

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ic706/

73's
Steve Blary, N1XC

> > Has anyone modified the IC 706MKllG for 60 meters and if so how
> much of a
> job

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 12:09:59 -0400
From: Chuck Ludinsky <cjl@mitre.org>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu, neqrp@jonal.net
Subject: [153969] NEQRP CW Net, Thursday, 10 July 03, 08:30 PM EDT, 3.565 MHz
Message-ID: <3F0D8FD7.5030106@mitre.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The New England QRP Club's 80M CW net, WQ1RP, will meet again on Thursday, 10 July 2003, at 8:30 PM EDT (00:30Z, 11 July 03) on or near 3.565 MHz. All hams are welcome. Net control operator will be John, WB1HBE, operating from Chelmsford, MA.

Please stop by and say HI to John and everyone on the net.

72 DE K1CL,
Chuck

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 12:12:27 -0400
From: "David J. Adams" <david@theadamsclan.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [153970] Stupid Human Tricks
Message-ID: <3F0D906B.5080905@theadamsclan.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Soley for the amusement of the list...

I was drilling a new panel for my wm-20. I finished and mounted the mic jacks and volume pot. I then went to mount the vfo pot and noticed the hole was one step to small...so...I figured I'd just throw it on the drill press and widen it really quickly. In the midst of drilling, my wife calls from upstairs and I let go of the panel...the bit had a firm hold of the panel, so it started whirling around at high speed...the premounted volume pot struck the drill head and woosh!!!! pot parts in every direction!...it would have been much more amusing if I had a spare 100 ohm pot...but then, I've always wanted to see what was inside anyway...

73 de dave, n9uxu

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 12:37:32 -0400
From: Fred Lesnick <flesnick@tbaytel.net>
To: QRPL <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, QRP Canada <qrp-canada@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>,
 beacons <hfbeacons@explore.plus.com>
Subject: [153971] 1500z band scan July 10/03
Message-ID: <3F0D964C.B9B30181@tbaytel.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well the bands are a bit off from yesterday. 10 meters has a number of beacons that I am hearing, the other bands are mostly all US stations. So here it is.

10m- No cw sigs on low end, but loaded with freebanders.
Beacons are:
28.189 XE1SRF*
28.208.5 AK2F
28.215 KA9SZ
28.220 KB9DJA
28.240 W1NRA
28.264 AB8Z
28.269.5 W3HH
28.278 AC3A*
28.280 K5AB
28.282.5 W0ERE*
28.287.5 NQ2RP
28.297 NS9RC*

* DENOTES 559 PLUS SIGNAL
FM repeaters are active. Even able to bring up simplex repeater on
29.500 this morning.
28.41 KC2IZV and gang rag chewing, but nt many others on voice at this
time.

12m- no signals

15m- very light voice sigs at top of band. low end is also very quiet
for c.w.
21.037 K1PUG calling QRZ at 359
21.025 N5QVQ at 559
at 1540z a few more stations could be heard.

17m- Lots of voice at top end all 5x5
very few and weak c.w. sigs
18.075 OM5MZ calling cq at 339
18.080 YB35AR with pileup 339

20m- 14.250 W8NYP 5x9
14.070.5 PSK is busy, copy K2DOT,K4TOR,WB9HTV all loud
14.040 W8OHM calling CQ at 559
14.020 K5APB at 559
14.082.5 YB35AR on RTTY 50bd 170 shift 539 with print on my screen

30m- no cw signals on low end
10.138.5 KB0GU calling CQ on PSK
usual digital stuff at high end

40m- voice sigs at high end at 5x5
7.107 KR3JA and W8NZW in cw qso both 559
7.038 K3GY with nice 589 signal

80/75m- no signals

160 m- no signals

Well gang, that is the report for today, no Europe heard yet, other then
YB35AR, so maybe band will open up later today.....
Loads of freebander on 10 meters this morning, so they are making use of
the spectrum.

Have a great day and good DX to all.

Fred
VE3FAL
Thunder Bay, Ontario EN58df

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 12:40:26 -0400
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: lee.boulineau@attws.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153972] Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
Message-ID: <3F0D96FA.BFB773E8@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Lee,

There's one other kind of kit that used to be popular. This is one where an author writes up his project and offers a PC board to readers. This is done usually because the project has a limited audience. The "bare" board may or may not be silk screened and solder masked. The author depends on the kit buyer to provide everything else. These are real learning experiences, but what with the current trend of most parts suppliers to vanish, nay be on the endangered species list.

73

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 13:08:57 -0400
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: dale@botkin.org
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153973] Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
Message-ID: <3F0D9DA9.75C4E68D@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Boy oh boy oh, there's nothing like commenting on Doug's posts to bring 'em out of the wood work. I must have said something bad... No one has completely read what I said, perhaps it was to hard to understand.

First, I did not merely complete the kit. I had to make decisions along the way like if I use this case will the board fit and will the power supply fit? This was in the days BEFORE battery power. TTL chips drew more power than batteries could supply.

Second, I had to layout and droll the complete case. This was for every part, the board, the power supply, and all panel mounted parts.

This is definitely more than just "completing' the kit, in my mind. It is something rarely experienced by our QRPers. Yes, it is probably a bit much to expect of our beginners, but back then, you could do it or pay over 50.00 for what you wanted!

73

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 13:18:38 -0400
From: "Ken Simpson, W8EK" <W8EK@allvantage.com>
To: "QRP List" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153974] TenTec filters and noise blanker FS
Message-ID: <CJENLDMADFCJIFBODNPGKEJFCMAA.W8EK@allvantage.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

TenTec Crystal Filters and noise blanker For Sale:

TenTec 219 CW filter.
250 Hz, for the 9 MHz IF. Will work in the older Omni 546, the newer Omnis in the 9 MHz IF, and in the Argonaut. Like new, with all of the paper work for $69.

TenTec 218, narrow SSB filter
It is 1800 Hz wide, for the 9 MHz IF, and fits the rigs listed above. Also like new, with paper work for $ 69

TenTec 285 CW filter
250 Hz, for the 6 MHz IF. Used in the Paragon, newer Omnis, and others. Also like new, with paper work for $69.

TenTec 220, 2.4 KHz SSB filter.
This filter works in the 9 MHz IF, and is the 8 pole filter that is used to replace the "standard" 4 pole filter in the Corsair I, Argosy, etc. It can also be cascaded, and used in a slot for a 218 filter for steeper skirts. This one is also like new. $75

TenTec 248 noise blanker.
This is the noise blanker that goes in the Omni 546, but not the newer Omni V or VI. This one has all the paper work with it, for $50.

Prices do not include shipping from Florida.

Thanks.

73,

Ken, W8EK

Ken Simpson
E-mail to W8EK@fdt.net or W8EK@arrl.net
Voice Phone (352) 732-8400

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 13:16:47 -0400
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: vsantis@earthlink.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153975] Re: Limited space antenna
Message-ID: <3F0D9F7F.952CAB4D@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Vince,

Your idea is a good one and should work though the spacing may be a little close. Have you considered using open wire feedline to 70 meter hamsticks and tuning them to any band with a good tuner? It might be cheaper and give you more flexibility.

73

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 13:25:30 -0400
From: "David Hinerman" <WD8CIV@worldnet.att.net>
To: "qrp-l" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153976] RE: 44 Wye
Message-ID: <000001c34708$42cfc910$7a032a0a@nyroc.ametek.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Steve,

How is the Wye connected? Two legs on one feedline conductor and one leg on the other conductor?

David Hinerman WD8CIV
wd8civ@worldnet.att.net

> -----Original Message-----
> From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU]On Behalf Of
> Steven Weber
> Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2003 11:05 AM
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
> Subject: 44 Wye
>
>
> Getting a diople up in woods around here is a lot of work. I haven't had
> much luck with end feed wires, but I have had good luck with 3 wire "Wye"
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>
> 72,
> Steve, KD1JV
> "Melt Solder"
> White Mountains of New Hampshire
> http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 11:34:03 -0600
From: William R Colbert <w5xe@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [153977] Re: Good Day!
Message-ID: <20030710.113404.-639299.6.w5xe@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ahhh, back to normal - censored again.

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 13:01:37 -0500 (CDT)
From: Dale Botkin <dale@botkin.org>
To: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153978] Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0307101252560.19139-100000@madmax.botkin.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Thu, 10 Jul 2003, Bruce Muscolino wrote:

> Boy oh boy oh, there's nothing like commenting on Doug's posts to
> bring 'em out of the wood work.

I don't have any religious issues about anybody disagreeing with anybody
else, that's not what triggered my reply.

> I must have said something bad... No one has completely read what I
> said, perhaps it was to hard to understand.

I did read it all, understood what I believe you were saying and didn't
agree with it. But that's OK, we just have different opinions on this one
point - no big deal. I understand what you're saying, but I also wanted
to point out that there is a place for more complete kits for raw
beginners. When you built your keyer in '76, I somehow doubt that was the
first electronic project you had ever done. If it was, you were highly
motivated and unusually persistent (or had a good Elmer). That's great
too, but we can't expect 100% of newbies to ham radio to be Type-A
builders right off the bat. I didn't teach my kids to play catch by
starting out with fastballs, either.

> First, I did not merely complete the kit. I had to make decisions along

> the way like 8< snip...

But you *could make* those decisions. Your average group of 13 years olds, or your average new Tech class participant, cannot. They often know squat. It's our job to get them started. They can do it the hard way later... let 'em walk befor ethey run.

72,
Dale - N0XAS
--
It's a thankless job, but I've got a lot of Karma to burn off.
Get a PicoKeyer: http://www.hamgadgets.com

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 14:02:11 -0400
From: "Ken Simpson, W8EK" <W8EK@allvantage.com>
To: "QRP List" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153979] Hustler mobile antennas FS
Message-ID: <CJENLDMADFCJIFBODNPGMEJICMAA.W8EK@allvantage.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hustler HF mobile antennas For Sale:

Hustler 54 inch masts:
MO-1 (folds about 14 inches above ball) $22

"Standard" Hustler resonators:
75 meter resonator RM-75 $ 18
40 meter resonator RM-40 $ 15
20 meter resonator RM-20 $ 14
12 meter resonator RM-12 $ 12
10 meter resonator RM-10 $ 10

80 meter "Super" high power resonator RM-80 S $42
15 meter "Super" high power resonator RM-15 S $20

RSS-2, Stainless steel resonator spring $8

Two meter VHF 5/8 wave 3 db gain antenna
screws into regular 3/8-24 ball - Model SF-2 $11

Prices do not include shipping from Florida.

Thanks.

73,

Ken, W8EK

Ken Simpson
E-mail to W8EK@fdt.net or W8EK@arrl.net
Voice Phone (352) 732-8400

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 14:16:20 -0400
From: Jim Eshleman <jce0@Lehigh.EDU>
To: w5xe@juno.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153980] Re: Good Day!
Message-ID: <3F0DAD74.4030807@Lehigh.EDU>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

If you are referring to your previous post on the subject, it was posted
exactly as received - with no body. I do not edit posts, they are
either approved or discarded.

William R Colbert wrote:
> Ahhh, back to normal - censored again.

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 14:23:44 -0400
From: "David Hinerman" <WD8CIV@worldnet.att.net>
To: "qrp-l" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153981] topical margarine
Message-ID: <000101c34710$654f98f0$7a032a0a@nyroc.ametek.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Oops, that subject line should say "marginally topical."

Anyway... does anyone know of an audio filter that can be placed between a desk phone and its handset? In my work I deal with several engineers overseas, and between the background noise and their individual voice characteristics (one is a deep-voiced Scot, another is an Irish lass with no bass at all) it's tough to make out what they're saying. (And no, accent is not a problem. I can understand them just fine in person.)

I talked to both of them this morning, and both times I wished I had a decent SSB filter I could switch in. On a DC landline that wouldn't do much good, though. But is there maybe a DSP handset filter? Or even a graphic equalizer?

Dave

David Hinerman WD8CIV
wd8civ@worldnet.att.net

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 14:44:49 -0400
From: "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@direcway.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153982] Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer
Message-ID: <064801c34713$57959f40$2202a8c0@J4>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
	charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Frankly, I 'm having less trouble getting parts these days the I've had in all 45 years as a ham. Mouser, DigiKey and some of the guys on this list make it fairly simple. The fact that the parts are smaller and way more interchangeable than the old days helps also.
73 de Lee
KM4YY

----- Original Message -----
From: "Bruce Muscolino" <w6toy@erols.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2003 12:40 PM
Subject: Re: Getting beginners started in QRP and an offer

> Lee,
>
> There's one other kind of kit that used to be popular. This is one
> where an author writes up his project and offers a PC board to readers.
> This is done usually because the project has a limited audience. The
> "bare" board may or may not be silk screened and solder masked. The
> author depends on the kit buyer to provide everything else. These are
> real learning experiences, but what with the current trend of most parts
> suppliers to vanish, nay be on the endangered species list.
>
> 73
>

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 15:03:01 -0400
From: Doug Behl <doug.behl@sympatico.ca>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153983] Re: Limited space antenna
Message-ID: <20030710190301.NIAE11594.tomts23-srv.bellnexxia.net@[209.226.175.20]>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Vince,

A friend purchased a connector that allowed him to connect two hamsticks together, and operate them as a dipole. Seemed to work pretty well. Bandwidth was very narrow, however.

Good luck!

Regards,

Doug VE3XDB

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 13:51:01 -0500
From: "Jerry Ford" <benlightnd13@mchsi.com>
To: "qrp-l" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, "FPigs" <fpqrp-l@mpna.com>
Subject: [153984] Looken for piggie's

Message-ID: <04e301c34714$35d55fc0$0077da0c@mchsi.com>

Anybody around this afternoon??

I'm sitten on the 7.044 this time and will be here for awhile
listening.
Drop by and say howdy!!

72 oo Jerry N0JRN
FP # 546, ARS # 923, ARCI # 11049, ARRL,
Springfield, Mo. http://home.mchsi.com/~n0jrn/
MP + # 8, K 1 # 608, SW 20 +, TT 1340 , RM 20 &
40, Tiny Tornado 20, 30, 40, 80, SMK - 1
and so on and so on

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 14:13:49 -0500
From: "Jerry Ford" <benlightnd13@mchsi.com>
To: "qrp-l" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, "FPigs" <fpqrp-l@mpna.com>
Subject: [153985] Fw: [fpqrp] Next Year FP contest..
Message-ID: <050201c34717$65909560$0077da0c@mchsi.com>

Thanks Diz;

I would be happy to set something up. Now to dig into all the
contest journals to find out what weekends may be opened.

All you piggies out there, keep an eye out for the upcoming FP
sprint.
Open for suggestions:

2 hour sprint or 4 hour sprint??
Saturday or Sunday night??

What name will we give it??

Any feedback will be appreciated. Dates and rules will be coming out
soon.

72 / 73 Jerry N0JRN
----- Original Message -----
From: "w8diz" <w8diz@fpqrp.com>
To: "FPigs" <fpqrp-l@mpna.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2003 2:18 PM
Subject: Re: [fpqrp] Next Year FP contest..

> OK Jerry,
>
> You are now OFFICIALLY the FP Sprint Manager.
> I'm not a sprinter so....You set it up. :)
>
> 72 & "oo's" - Dieter (DIZ) Gentzow - W8DIZ - Loveland, Ohio
> Clermont County - EM79uf - near Cincinnati; 39:13:05N 84:18:18W
> RIG:multiPIG+ ANT:470 FT Horiz Loop http://kitsandparts.com
>
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "Jerry Ford" <benlightnd13@mchsi.com>
> To: "FPigs" <fpqrp-l@mpna.com>
> Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2003 2:53 PM
> Subject: Fw: [fpqrp] Next Year FP contest..
>
>
> Sounds like a capital notion to me !!
>
> Can you throw in a sprint or two sponcored by the FP to bring some
of
> these folks out of the woodwork??
>
> 72 oo Jerry N0JRN
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "w8diz" <w8diz@fpqrp.com>
> To: <fpqrp-l@fpqrp.com>
> Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2003 11:10 AM
> Subject: [fpqrp] Next Year FP contest..
>
>
> > Hi piggies...
> >
> > Looks like the WAP contest for 2003 is going well.
> > Is Lloyd cheating?
> >
> > Anyway, I just wanted your comments for next years FP contest.
> > Since we now have piggies in all 50 States, how about...
> >
> > "FP_to_FP WAS" Starting Jan 1st, 2004, ending Dec 31, 2004.
> >
> > Objest is to be 1st to get WAS by collecting (again) FP #'s.
> > Prize to be determined.
> >
> > comments?
> >

> > 72 & "oo's" - Dieter (DIZ) Gentzow - W8DIZ - Loveland, Ohio
> > Clermont County - EM79uf - near Cincinnati; 39:13:05N 84:18:18W
> > RIG:multiPIG+ ANT:470 FT Horiz Loop http://kitsandparts.com
> >
> >
> >
> > -To unsubscribe, mail to majordomo@fpqrp.com, msg: unsubscribe
> fpqrp-l -
>
>
> -To unsubscribe, mail to majordomo@fpqrp.com, msg: unsubscribe
fpqrp-l -
>
>
> -To unsubscribe, mail to majordomo@fpqrp.com, msg: unsubscribe
fpqrp-l -

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 14:40:23 -0500
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: <tcgroat@earthlink.net>,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153986] Re: battery backup for home station
Message-ID: <00ae01c3471b$1c1ce290$0401a8c0@PS>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Tim, I have to disagree about the VX-35M not being suitable for this service. It is charging a single large 105 AH deep-cycle battery with the terminal voltage at the battery held by the regulated supply at 13.8 volts.

Every circuit in the system is fused. The supply provides under load only the current that the battery does not. IN the absence of load current, the supply provides only the charging current that maintains a float-charge terminal voltage of 13.8 volts.

The current limiting (adjustable) is set at about 30 amps. If the battery were to short a cell internally or other such fault, the series charging fuse would blow and protect both the supply and the battery.

In terms of your points:

> The original post mentioned using an Astron RS-35M power supply to charge

> the batteries. While it's inviting to use something you already have,
> that's not an ideal solution.

My post spectified a VS-35M with variable voltage output and variable current limiting. Not at all the same as the RS-35 which is fixed in both regards.

 First, the RS-35 supply will deliver at least
> 35A at current limit. That may be too much charge current, especially if
> it's small or a sealed battery.

The VS-35 can be set to any limit I choose, and the battery is a large, wet-cell RV battery which gets its water levels and terminal voltage checked at least weekly.

Second, the RS-35 has both CCS (continuous)
> and ICAS (intermittent) current ratings. Running it at current limit for a
> long time exceeds its CCS rating, and may damage it.

Again that may be a problem with the RS-35 but not the VS-35M I am using.

 Power supplies use
> current limit like the rpm limiter in a car engine--it's a safety
> over-ride, not something you're supposed to use constantly. Battery
> chargers use current limit like the governor in a lawn mower engine--it
> controls the speed in normal use. A good battery charger or a
> current-limiting solar panel charge controller would be a better choice;
> both are designed to handle their rated output current continuously.

To followup on the lawn mower analogy, the governor tries to maintain a constant engine speed under load changes. As the load increases, the engine is speeded up. The analogy here is that as load current increases, the charger tries to force more charging current into the battery even though it may be fully charged.

Using a regulated, constant-voltage power supply provides a current to the battery only when the terminal voltage under load falls lower than the output voltage of the supply(less the diode drop), in my case 13.8 volts at the battery terminals. Then, current is provided to the battery through the isolation diode and 30 amp fuse. I feel that this results in less stress on the battery than using a charger which may or may not be "smart" enough to work in this environment as opposed to the other forms of storage battery applications.
>
> In every case, follow the battery manufacturer's charging recommendations.
> They aren't all the same. A few tenths of a volt does make a difference in
> the performance and life of your battery.

Agreed! <:}

Tim, I think that if you will review this from the viewpoint of the actual supply I mentioned, you will find that the system I described is highly unlikely to damage the battery, the supply or the load in the event of a number of potential (pun intended!) fault conditions.

I much prefer using a reliable power supply, relatively well regulated and stable with known behavior, than a "smart" charger whose behavior is directly controlled by the battery to which it is attached and which is undergoing variable load conditions. And, unfortunately, many of the popular "smart" chargers available at Wal-Mart or Sam's are hardly sterling examples of engineering.

I guess it is a matter of you use the system you like, and I use the system I like! <:}

Mine has worked a long time with no damage to the battery or anything else.

73/72, George
Amateur Radio W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas
Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13QE
"In the 57th year and it just keeps getting better!"
<mailto:w5yr@att.net>

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 14:43:27 -0500
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: <vsantis@earthlink.net>,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153987] Re: Limited space antenna
Message-ID: <00b401c3471b$896e6b70$0401a8c0@PS>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Vince, I would expect such a dipole to be about 10 dB below a full size dipole at a comparable height. That is just a guess, but the losses, especially on 75, of such antennas as Ham Sticks is quite large. Just getting them to match 50 ohm coax (somehow) does not indicate that they will radiate much of the power delivered to them.

This will be a neat arrangement if you can tolerate the power loss. I
presume that you would use separate coax feed to each "dipole."

73/72, George
Amateur Radio W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas
Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13QE
"In the 57th year and it just keeps getting better!"
<mailto:w5yr@att.net>

----- Original Message -----
From: "Vin Santis" <vsantis@earthlink.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2003 7:30 AM
Subject: Limited space antenna

> Good morning,
>
> I'm faced with having to make an antenna change because of severely
> resticted space. I wannt to operate on 75/40 meters in order to continue a
> sked with friends within a 500 mile radius. This will not be my only
> antenna since I also luse a vertical successfully. My thought is to use
two
> Ham stSticks for each band as shortened dipoles mounted on the same mast
> and separated 2 to 3 feet from each other. I'll appreciate any comments on
> this arrangement or alternatives to it.
>
> TIA,
>
> Vince Santis, N1VS
> Winsted, CT
> vsantis@earthlink.net

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 13:22:09 -0700 (PDT)
From: Curt Milton <wb8yyy@yahoo.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153988] Re: Limited space antenna
Message-ID: <20030710202209.9354.qmail@web21414.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

As you have heard from others very narrow bandwidth
(meaning very hard to tune - even a 1 kHz qsy might
mean re-tuning!) and low efficiency are concerns.

This ideal is decent for 6 and 10 meters, and it
"degrades" as you go down in frequency! I don't know
if you have any vertical space outdoors - but in days
past some novices used verticals (20-30 feet whatever
they had) with base-loading (W1FB contributed to an
article by an ARRL staffer, it might be in ARRL TIS
section) or a simple tuner located right at the base,
and a couple radials. I am suspicious an 80m hamstick
would work better with 2 wire radials as a vertical
than with two units as a dipole. or maybe consider a
40m hamstick with an extended wire vertical to get a
match (to emulate the vertical i described above!) if
you ran into one cheap or as a loaner to try.

try to get as much linear length of conductor in your
volume available. if another ham can "see" what you
have to work with he/she could make suggestions.

i just did not want to have you investing in 2
hamsticks (plus maybe the dipole mount i think they
sell?) without understanding what you would get. as
much wire as you can deploy away from other parallel
conducting surfaces, and a decent tuner (e.g. ZM-2,
BLT, homebrew, commercial, etc.) is a better approach.

you are doing well to request ideas - i hope you get
even better ones than i provided!

curt wb8yyy

Do you Yahoo!?
SBC Yahoo! DSL - Now only $29.95 per month!
http://sbc.yahoo.com

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 16:37:42 -0400
From: James Duffey <JamesDuffey@comcast.net>
To: Karl Larsen <k5di@msn.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153989] Re: Forget about the art
Message-ID: <1afdbfe1afdb87.1afdb871afdbfe@icomcast.net>

MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-language: en
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-disposition: inline

Karl - Since I am portable, I am using a UNIX box here, but I am composing my messages with the ISP's mail client since this is not my machine. I usually don't have this problem with the editor I use at home.

But this is not QRp related.

But Lobstercon is. I will be heading out for Maine tomorrow. I hope to see all you NE QRPers there. And then in two weeks it will be Tuthill. See you there. - Duffey KK6MC

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 16:41:21 -0400
From: "Bill, N4QA" <n4qa@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [153990] RE: 706MKllGon 60 meters...how 'bout the '703 QRP hf-only model?
Message-ID: <BAY1-F78DqaJY4kJSFs000001fa@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Looking at all the previously-referenced mods, there appear to be several different mods for different flavors of the '706...

Hey! How 'bout a 60-meter mod for the new Icom '703 QRP hf-only model? Which diode(s) do I cut?

It's D80 on the Kenwood TS-440S but that was in another millennium...

73.
Bill, N4QA
http://www.n4qa.com

Add photos to your e-mail with MSN 8. Get 2 months FREE*.
http://join.msn.com/?page=features/featuredemail

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 16:50:06 +0000
From: ve3ab@mail.mondenet.com
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.edu
Subject: [153991] Open line spacers I have made or thought about
Message-ID: <200307102050.h6AKoJVN026046@barclay.mondenet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Back in the early 70s..I used a hacksaw to make my 5 inch spacers for
open wire out of 1/4 inch plexiglass! Recently..I have purchased a
number of ceramic spacers about the same size. I need alot more to
make a good run of line.
I have used 2 parallel lengths of the inner conductor of RG8..with
close spacing..and wrappings of electrical tape to make a nice ladder
line. Spacing between the insulation was only 1/8 of an inch or so.
Not sure of the impedance..but I had real good results with a g5rv.
Only problem I had was I forgot to seal the ends against moisture.
The appearance of this parallel line was quite nice..especially if
you used white electrical tape. I have thought about using
fiberglass fence spreaders/stretchers. They are solid
enough..available at hardware/home depot or whatever..and should be
relatively good outdoors.
Another material for spacers might be rg8 inner conductor plastic
cut into short lenghts and the conductor pulled out and holes
drilled.
dont know if this would be easy to do or not! The post about whipper
snipper line seems to be a bit hard to imagine! Must be thick line.
73 Earl Ve3ab

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 17:02:49 -0400
From: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: WD8CIV@worldnet.att.net,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153992] RE: 44 Wye
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20030710170249.007bcd20@mailhost.ncia.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>How is the Wye connected? Two legs on one feedline conductor and one leg on
>the other conductor?

Exactly. It's an upside down Y.

If you feed it with coax, the vertical wire goes to the center conductor and the two "radials" at it were, connect to the shield. If you feed it with balanced line, it don't matter which side goes where.

The center feed point should be elevated 5-8 feet off the ground so you can slope make the upside down Y shape. I try to keep the ends of the wire a few feet off the ground, but don't know if that makes any real difference or not. Guess modeling it would give an idea what happens there, and if the direction the radials go in affect the pattern.

I belive you can find some info on this configuration in a ARRL antenna handbook.
72,
Steve, KD1JV
"Melt Solder"
White Mountains of New Hampshire
http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 16:08:35 -0500
From: "Karl" <kkanalz@gcecisp.com>
To: <w5yr@att.net>,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153993] Re:Further to battery backup for home station
Message-ID: <003e01c34727$6db54a00$b91a0ed0@HamShack>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In the telecom industry, flooded cells or even gel-cells are used to provide back-up power in the event of AC mains power failure.

The charger/rectifiers used with such systems are rated to carry the LOAD current as well as pro-vide a "trickle charge" to the flooded/gel cells. These cells are in parallel with the charger/rectifier output(s) and are then connected to the various loads (such as multiplex, microwave, fiber optic transceivers, etc.). All in PARALLEL. If the primary AC power fails, then the batteries automatically begin to provide d.c. power to the load(s), without any "glitches" being seen by the load(s). There are *NO* special circuits to control the charging current to the battery bank(s).

Usually, there is a large (huge, actually!) fuse between the charger and the battery bank and another huge fuse between the battery bank and the load(s) in case of short circuits (just as George described in his set up at home). Sometimes, there are "load disconnect switches" installed between the battery bank(s) and the load(s) to totally disconnect the battery bank when

the terminal voltage falls below a preset level to protect the battery bank(s) from a total deep discharge. Of course, when the "load disconnect" actuates, the load (microwave, multiplex, etc...) then becomes non-functioning. Hopefully, before that happens, the emergency generator will have come on-line and restore "Primary AC power" to the charger/rectifier systems so no further "glitches" will be "seen" by the equipment loads.

In George's case, the Astron supply (whether adjustable or not) can be left across a lead acid battery without any load on the battery/charger system. Although the Astron is *capable* of providing 35 amperes, it won't put any more current into the battery than the battery "needs" to be charged. It certainly won't be on the level of anywhere *near* 35 amperes in the worst of times! The charging current to the "naked battery" will be only what it needs to reach full charge. Once the battery is properly charged, current output of the Astron supply (adjustable or not) will become almost miniscule (look that up in your Funk & Wagnall's).

Karl K - W8TIF
McKinney, Texas

----- Original Message -----
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2003 2:40 PM
Subject: Re: battery backup for home station

> Tim, I have to disagree about the VX-35M not being suitable for this
> service. It is charging a single large 105 AH deep-cycle battery with the
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> Amateur Radio W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas
> Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13QE
> "In the 57th year and it just keeps getting better!"

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 18:03:23 -0400
From: Mark Gilger <mgilger@brightdsl.net>
To: w5yr@att.net,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153994] Re: battery backup for home station
Message-ID: <5.1.0.14.2.20030710174644.037c25d8@mail.brightdsl.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

All good points and very interesting.

I have 4 golf cart batteries in series, parallel configuration (total almost 500 amps)that I've had on-line now for about 10 years running some of my equipment. I solar charge them, although since my solar capacity does not meet my minimum requirements I also float a charge on them for 8 hours, once per week. They are way overdue for replacement, but it's hard to convince myself to do this since they are still providing me with ample power for my needs.

Several points I wanted to make. First off, if the battery is a deep cycle, wet battery, like my golf cart batteries are, you need to also do an equalize charge on them, maybe every month or two. To do this you need to get the voltage up to around 15.8 to 16.3 volts and get a lot of bubbling going and just let them cook for a few hours. The few hours will depend on how much battery capacity you have and how quickly you can get the voltage up to 15.8 to 16.3 volt range. There are a lot of articles on this so I won't go into detail other to say it's pretty important for good battery maintenance. There a very good web site for alternate power called "Home Power" you can download the current issue of the magazine for free via web. Or of course you can subscribe. I spent a year downloading them before I finally subscribed. http://www.homepower.com/

The point to this is that you will never get 18 volts out of the so mentioned supplies unless you get in and crank the voltage up to max. I doubt you could even get there doing that. So you need an alternate supply, capable of supplying this voltage. I use an old 10 amp supply out of some communications equipment that I've taken the regulator out of. Seems to work pretty good.

So if all you want to do is trickle charge, the VX-35M or the RS-35 will work fine but without an equalization charge the life of the battery will fall off.

Have fun....

Mark, WB0IQK

At 02:40 PM 7/10/03 -0500, George, W5YR wrote:
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><mailto:w5yr@att.net>

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 18:15:10 -0400
From: "Emmersome Bigguns" <n8ie@woh.rr.com>
To: "QRP-l" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [153995] RE: 6 hot again
Message-ID: <MMEDLKDLONJOAIGICDJAAEBAEJAA.n8ie@woh.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

For CW, listen between 50.070/50.100+/-
For SSB listen between 50.100-50.250 +/-

72, oo
Dan, N8IE

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU]On Behalf Of M.M.
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2003 11:24 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: 6 hot again

At 22:06 07/09/03 -0400, Emmersome Bigguns wrote:
>Great opening in EM79. TX, OK, MO, AL, LA, MN.
>Not much from the east coast but plenty of sigs.

What's the best freq to monitor on 6?

73... Mark AA7TA

Incoming mail is certified Virus Free.
Checked by AVG anti-virus system (http://www.grisoft.com).
Version: 6.0.497 / Virus Database: 296 - Release Date: 7/4/2003

Outgoing mail is certified Virus Free.
Checked by AVG anti-virus system (http://www.grisoft.com).
Version: 6.0.497 / Virus Database: 296 - Release Date: 7/4/2003

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2003 18:41:07 -0400
From: "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@direcway.com>
To: <kkanalz@gcecisp.com>,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [153996] Re:Further to battery backup for home station
Message-ID: <06dd01c34734$5a4ec8d0$2202a8c0@J4>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have to take issue with what Karl says here.

> In George's case, the Astron supply (whether adjustable or not) can be
left
> across a lead acid battery without any load on the battery/charger system.
> Although the Astron is *capable* of providing 35 amperes, it won't put any
> more current into the battery than the battery "needs" to be charged. It
> certainly won't be on the level of anywhere *near* 35 amperes in the worst
> of times!

If AC power is lost, the battery can be significantly discharged. If so, the initial charging current after AC power is restored can be well above 35 amperes.

Also, even reasonable priced chargers now use multi stage charging modes. The initial or "bulk" charging stage can be up to 25% of the total battery bank capacity. This continues until the battery bank reaches approximately 80% of capacity when the charge goes into a constant voltage mode, the absorption phase, (about 14.4 volts maximum for a flooded battery, less for a gel cell battery), until the battery reaches approximately 90% capacity. The charger then shifts to a float charge with about 13.6 VDC applied to the battery terminal.

Even assuming the RM-35 is able to survive the initial charging current drawn by a depleted battery, it will take it forever to re-charge the battery to 90-95% since its output is limited to 13.6 VDC.

Even if there is never a problem requiring the battery backup, the RM-35 will not be able to apply the monthly equalization charge necessary to keep the battery in top shape and avoid sulfation.

73 de Lee
KM4YY/8

----- Original Message -----
From: "Karl" <kkanalz@gcecisp.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2003 5:08 PM
Subject: Re:Further to battery backup for home station

> In the telecom industry, flooded cells or even gel-cells are used to
provide
> back-up power in the event of AC mains power failure.
>
> The charger/rectifiers used with such systems are rated to carry the LOAD
> current as well as pro-vide a "trickle charge" to the flooded/gel cells.
> These cells are in parallel with the charger/rectifier output(s) and are
> then connected to the various loads (such as multiplex, microwave, fiber

> optic transceivers, etc.). All in PARALLEL. If the primary AC power
fails,
> then the batteries automatically begin to provide d.c. power to the
load(s),
> without any "glitches" being seen by the load(s). There are *NO* special
> circuits to control the charging current to the battery bank(s).
>
> Usually, there is a large (huge, actually!) fuse between the charger and
the
> battery bank and another huge fuse between the battery bank and the
load(s)
> in case of short circuits (just as George described in his set up at
home).
> Sometimes, there are "load disconnect switches" installed between the
> battery bank(s) and the load(s) to totally disconnect the battery bank
when
> the terminal voltage falls below a preset level to protect the battery
> bank(s) from a total deep discharge. Of course, when the "load
disconnect"
> actuates, the load (microwave, multiplex, etc...) then becomes
> non-functioning. Hopefully, before that happens, the emergency generator
> will have come on-line and restore "Primary AC power" to the
> charger/rectifier systems so no further "glitches" will be "seen" by the
> equipment loads.
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> more current into the battery than the battery "needs" to be charged. It
> certainly won't be on the level of anywhere *near* 35 amperes in the worst
> of times! The charging current to the "naked battery" will be only what
it
> needs to reach full charge. Once the battery is properly charged, current
> output of the Astron supply (adjustable or not) will become almost
miniscule
> (look that up in your Funk & Wagnall's).
>
> Karl K - W8TIF
> McKinney, Texas
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
> To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
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End of QRP-L Digest 2977

